

Hafa Adai!

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Navy agrees to consult federal biologists. PAGE 15

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75¢

Cop arrested for sexual assault of minor

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Investigators from the Attorney General's Investigation Unit, accompanied by special agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, arrested yesterday morning a police officer who allegedly sexually assaulted a minor girl.

Multiple sources disclosed that Police Officer 3 Jessie Concepcion was served with an arrest warrant at the Department of Public Safety's impounding lot in Lower Base at 10:01am.

Sources also revealed that an arrest warrant was also issued against a

» **Arrest warrant also issued against former DPS official**

former ranking DPS official related to Concepcion's case. *Saipan Tribune* opted to withhold the name of the defendant as he is reportedly off-island.

Sources said Concepcion was arrested for sexual assault of a minor in the second degree involving a then-

15-year-old girl.

Sources said the charges against Concepcion and the former DPS official are connected to the allegations against Raymond B. Roberto.

In September 2014, Roberto, a former acting director of the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife, was acquitted by a federal jury of charges

See COP on Page 4

MIA: Flame tree flowers

By **FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON**
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REPORTER

April has begun and so has the annual Flame Tree Arts Festival but the famed flaming red blossoms of the flamboyant flame trees are still nowhere to be found on Saipan.

And so many have asked: Just where have the flame trees gone?

As Saipan residents would know, the flame trees are

» **'Flame tree-less' Flame Tree Festival this year**

See MIA on Page 4

Unlike when they're healthy and during their peak season, only a handful of flowers can be seen from this flame tree in San Antonio. It is one of the few flame trees along Beach Road that actually has flowers.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON



Bloomless Flame Tree Arts Festival kicks off

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

John Oliver Gonzales is saddened with the fact that flame trees are not in full bloom in time for the start of the Flame Tree Arts Festival. The festivities of the 35th edition of the annual event opened yesterday at the Civic Center in Susupe.

"It's a bit sad that the flowers of the flame trees failed

See BLOOMLESS on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Three to four wild land grass fires are occurring on Rota a day, damaging more than 20 percent of the island's land mass area.

» **PAGE 6**



LOCAL

Ted Parker is more than just a boss to his employees, as owner and general manager of Brabu Pharmacy has helped his staff succeed in other ways.

» **PAGE 10**



TECHNOLOGY

They came with eco-glue and Lego launchers. Their tag board displays were filled with charts, graphs and research on pollution.

» **PAGE 24**



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Local

Tinian mayor: Prolonged closure of TDHC a concern

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

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REPORTER

had a rippling effect on community events and tourism in general."

"In the absence of an operating casino, we do not have the means to continue providing consistent delivery of community programs," San Nicolas said.



San Nicolas

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas is having concerns with the prolonged closure of Tinian's largest hotel, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, which was supposed to reopen today but is not expected to do so.

Responding to inquiries made by *Saipan Tribune* last Tuesday, the office of the Tinian Mayor issued a press release saying, "the mayor is concerned that a prolonged closure of the Tinian Dynasty will result in the total abandonment and deterioration of the casino complex."

In their earlier announcement prior to the "temporary" closure, which began March 5, Tinian Dynasty said they will reopen today. However, sources confirmed that the hotel will not open.

"We have a beautiful facility that I do not want to see end up becoming an eyesore, much like the La Fiesta Mall on Saipan, because it has been abandoned," San Nicolas said.

He added that he hopes to "encourage investment options that would save the existing casino infrastructure."

Despite no clear details yet on when the hotel will operate normally, San Nicolas and the Tinian leadership said they appreciate Tinian Dynasty "for the opportunity to provide hotel accommodations for our visitors during this year's annual San Jose Fiesta."

The hotel has announced that it will open during the Tinian San Jose Fiesta slated on April 29 to May 1.

According to the mayor, "the closure of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino has

To promote and further develop Tinian's casino industry,

San Nicolas and Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian) are travelling to Hong Kong and Beijing, China to meet with investors from Mega Stars Overseas Ltd.'s, Bridge Investment Group, Tinian Entertainment Co., and Alter City Group.

The two officials said they hope to "encourage an aggressive completion plan of the proposed casino resort complexes currently being developed by Bridge Investment Group and Alter City Group."

"This trip is about encouraging an aggressive development plan for our casino industry and doing whatever that is within our power to salvage the backbone of our local economy," Cruz said.

They also intend to invite potential investors to partner up with the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino so that they may be able to resume their casino and hotel operations.

"My job is to do whatever I can to keep the casino industry alive which has been the life-line of Tinian for several decades now," San Nicolas said.

"We cannot promote Tinian as a tourism destination if we do not have the means to accommodate our visitors. The closure of our largest hotel limits our ability to expand and develop our tourism economy," Cruz said.

Tinian Dynasty has been closed for more than a month now with its casino shuttered since late last year.

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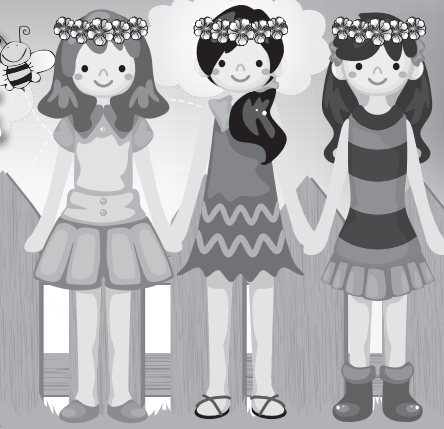
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Glushko falls prey to burglars twice in 3-week period

Burglars struck at two houses of Glushko's Academy of Performing Arts instructor Anna Glushko in San Antonio and in Susupe in a three-week period.

In an interview yesterday, Glushko said she and her husband are offering \$500 cash to anyone who can give information that will lead to arrest of the suspects in both cases.

As of yesterday, the Department of Public Safety had yet to release information to the media about the two incidents.

Glushko said she's so scared and feels that she is not safe anymore on Saipan.

"I now want to get out of Saipan. I don't want to live here anymore. I feel I'm not safe here anymore," said the ballerina instructor who has called the island her home since arriving in December 1999.

She said she and her husband reported the two incidents to the police, but until now no one was arrested.

Glushko said the first incident really scared her when she was

awakened by noise in her house in Susupe last March 25.

She said at first she thought it was their house worker who comes regularly, but when she checked the noise, she saw a masked man in their living room.

The suspect ran away together with another man, who was waiting outside the house. The two suspects fled aboard a motorcycle.

Glushko said her husband was sleeping at that time.

Glushko said the suspects stole her purse, cellphone, laptop, cash, jewelry, and other items, all valued at \$5,000.

She said her jewelry is very sentimental to her because they belong to her father, who already passed away.

Glushko said that on Wednesday one of their employees discovered that burglars also stole items from one of their two houses in San Antonio that are undergoing renovation.

She said they believe that

the burglars broke into the house last weekend or early this week.

She said the burglars removed the front door of the house.

Among the items stolen was a brand new stainless steel Samsung 30.39 cubic feet four-door flex French door refrigerator worth \$3,000.

frigerator worth \$3,000.

Glushko said they purchased the refrigerator from Guam and that it is still wrapped in plastic and has

never been used.

"Please help us catch these burglars and put them in jail," she appealed to the public. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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Yanked visa waiver program would not mean sudden death for casino industry

Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero said Wednesday that a yanked visa-waiver program for Chinese tourists would not mean sudden death to a burgeoning casino industry, as many of the profits generated by the Saipan casino rely on high-rollers who fly in with visas.

Guerrero said that if for whatever reason the Chinese visa waiver or parole program were revoked by the federal government, "it would not affect the VIPs, because almost all of them have visas."

Saipan's casino operation revenues from slot machines or tales "do not come close to VIP operations," he said.

"They are focusing more on VIP for future operations," Guerrero said of the Saipan casino.

Guerrero, speaking to two immigration issues the CNMI faces—an impending expiration of the local contract worker program in 2019 and a visa waiver program at the complete discretion of the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security who can yank this at any

time—said the CW issue "affects the workers" but the visa waiver would affect tourists.

"If we are looking at concentrating on VIP rooms and players, then the parole waiver—if that were to be revoked by Homeland Security, it would not be an automatic death like other tourism" bases, he said.

He said most of the VIPs playing at the Saipan casino, which posted a rolling VIP chip turnover volume of \$6.1 billion in the first quarter of this year, already have visas.

"They are not coming in on" contract worker visas. They are coming in with a visa. These people travel all around the world. In some cases, they have their own jets," he added.

Right now, the commission is reviewing the suitability of 12 junket operators' applications, from such places like Korea, Macau, Singapore, Korea, and China.

These junket operators are expected to bring high rollers from around the world to play in Saipan's casino industry, whose Macau-style junket operations will be the first of its kind on U.S. soil. *(Dennis B. Chan)*



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PSS request \$39M for fiscal year 2016

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Public School System has requested a budget of \$39.5 million, a \$3-million increase from their approved local budget last year, \$1 million of which will go to salary increases if approved, according to their FY 2017 budget submitted to the Legislature.

In a budget proposal to the House of Representatives, PSS breaks down this increase of \$3 million over its FY 2016 appropriation as follows: \$1 million for salary adjustments for certified teachers, counselors, pupil transportation, and administrative staff; \$300,000 for procurement of insurance required by Federal Emergency Management Agency for receiving public assistance from Typhoon Soudelor;

\$350,000 for full-day kindergarten; \$490,000 for operational funding for schools; \$600,000 for an anticipated increase in employer's share of the health insurance premium; and \$500,000 for schools and central office repairs.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan said yesterday this "variance of \$3 million" is going to address "critical needs" of the school district such as schools and central office repairs, full-time kindergarten, and ensuring that these are 100 percent in place.

She added that also because of Typhoon Soudelor, they need to make buildings repaired by funding from FEMA are covered as well as "additional needs here and there."

Last year, PSS requested a local budget of \$42 million, some millions higher than for

this year.

Asked for "what changed," Sablan said they "still have a lot of needs" but just looked at their funding from last year and looked at where they "can enhance their programs."

PSS is also guaranteed 25 percent of the local appropriations, which Sablan called the "guaranteed minimum."

"We hope that the Legislature will not think only of the minimum, which is the floor, but really think about how they can really provide the education to our children who deserve it," she said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, though, has yet to submit revenue projections and budget to the Legislature, from which this 25 percent would be calculated.

"We need to know what is the budget. The budget call it-

self thus far is \$112 million," Sablan said.

"If there is an increase in the budget in the fiscal year," she said, then PSS would "certainly we would" revise its budget "if there is an absolute increase."

For the salary adjustments, the CNMI Board of Education and PSS plan across-the-board salary adjustments for its staff.

"From bus drivers to office clerks, salaries have remained frozen for far too long," said board chair Herman Guerrero and Sablan in a joint letter to the House.

The board will apply a 5-percent increase to the salaries of all support staff, with a fiscal impact of about \$1 million, they said.

For property insurance costs, the education leaders said schools, which were

extensively damaged and repaired with funding from the federal government need to be insured.

These affected schools include San Vicente Elementary School, Garapan Elementary School, Marianas High School, Tanapag Middle School, and Gregorio T.

Camacho Elementary School.

For full-day kindergarten, the board proposes to hire 10 new positions.

Guerrero and Sablan also requested close to \$2 million for the funds to match federal program funding for SPED, Head Start, and Early Head State programs.

MIA

From Page 1

among the silent victims of Typhoon Soudelor, which toppled down a significant number of trees last August. Even before the strong one hit, the trees experienced blows from the unusual number of storms and typhoons the CNMI had last year.

However, one should not despair for there is still hope that we will see these flowers that make the island more vibrant soon.

This is because despite being in recovery, the trees will bloom, according to Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Seman.

"Simply because of their seasonality, they will bloom," Seman said, "In essence they are still in recovery since they are still alive."

Flame trees peak in June

Although April is when we start to see them bloom, Seman also noted that the primary season for Flame Trees is around May with its peak happening around June.

The Flame Tree Arts Festival itself was held in June since it was started in 1980, according to Department of Community and Cultural Affairs acting secretary Robert Hunter.

Although it is disputed who named the festival after the flame trees, it was certainly inspired by their blooms.

Hunter said most of the artists who take part in the festival requested for it to be moved to April as June is generally a busy month aside from the weather being extremely hot and dry.

However, while flame trees do not fail to produce flowers every year—displaying their resiliency—they are not expected to be as ostentatious as they were the previous years.

"They will [bloom] but they will not be as huge as they used to because there are lesser branches now," Seman said, "They always will but not as many."

COP

From Page 1

that he enticed three minor girls to engage in prostitution and tampered with a witness while he was in jail.

Despite being the "state tree" of the Commonwealth, flame trees are not endemic to the CNMI.

According to the Marianas Resource Conservation and Development Council, the first Flame Trees were brought to Saipan in the 1960s. About 800 to 900 flame trees were planted at that time.

Resilient and elegant

Because they are not from here, Seman said there is not much to do to help them recover but to just leave them alone.

The flame tree, a native to Madagascar but has since spread to other countries including nations in the Pacific and Asia, is resilient to heat as it craves for tropical climate and can survive salty conditions.

"If there's anything that hurts them it's the termites," Seman said.

In addition to its elegance as well as its characteristic of providing wonderful shade, another great thing about Flame Trees is that they are easy to plant.

"They're so easy to plant, they're so easy to grow," Seman said, "They grow so fast. If you plant them now, within four months they're ready for transplant."

Seeds used for planting flame trees come from the pods that fall after the blooming period of the trees. Because flame trees bloom every year, Seman said they don't have a problem with finding seeds.

Within a year, Seman said the trees will be able to survive on their own.

"They will have enough height and enough width to withstand the wind," Seman said.

Seman said the department's Division of Forestry is always ready to plant new flame trees and replace those that were lost.

They can even accommodate additional projects or requests for flame trees.

"Whenever it's needed, our Forestry Division has a nursery and they regularly plant flame trees," Seman said.

A bail hearing in the Superior Court is expected to commence today, Friday, in the case against Concepcion.

Sources said Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo issued the two warrants of arrest.

'Higher rebate ceiling means more players'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission determined that an increase in rebate for VIP players at the Saipan casino would increase revenues and tax collected, in approving a rebate increase earlier this month from 1.4 percent of amount rolled to 1.8 percent.

According to commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero, the rolling chip rebate program is considered a marketing cost, an expense that is deductible from tax obligation.

"The more you raise the rolling chip [rebate] the more you will offset your tax liability at the end of the year because it is subject to deductions," Guerrero said.

"They're [Best Sunshine International, Ltd.] explanation is that our volume would go up because of the encouragement of the market is higher. People would come out here because we offer very high" rebates.

Still, from the commission's point of the view, Guerrero said, the question was: would it increase the revenue?

Guerrero said the answer

was yes.

"Before we approved it... we ran a couple of numbers. If you were to pay [a rebate] at 1.4 percent, 1.5 percent, all the way up to 2 percent, what would be tax implication at the end of the year?"

"And our calculations are that we would come out better at the end of the year. So... it will be a better overall tax, both on a monthly basis versus the end of the year

This would happen even if the rebate was tax deductible, Guerrero said, "because the volume would increase," or the number of players are ex-

pected to increase.

The commission approved on April 5 the casino's rebate matrix for the casino rolling chip program.

Under the matrix, for example, if a player played between \$20,000 and \$500,000 the cash rebate offered to player would be 1 percent of the amount rolled. If a player rolled \$500,000, the player would get one percent.

Under the matrix, if you play \$5 million or more, the player gets 1.3 percent rebate.

The Saipan casino requested the commission to increase the "ceiling" from 1.4 to 1.8 percent rebate, which was approved.

BLOOMLESS

From Page 1

to bloom this time. Maybe, it is because of Typhoon Soudelor," said Gonzales, the CNMI's head of delegation to the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts next month in Guam.

"But just like the trees, the CNMI people are resilient and strong. Our spirits are back up and things are getting back to normal."

Gonzales added that even though the flame trees are not in full bloom, it should not prevent the community to celebrate its diversity especially the traditions of the Chamorro and Carolinian people.

"The Chamorro and Carolinian are two of the most diverse cultures in our community. We must embrace diversity and the other cultures, and be united as a community. Being united makes us strong, resilient from all the adversities that we will be facing," said Gonzales.

For master carver Michael K. Finey, the festival, whether



JON PEREZ

Wood carver Michael K. Finey is among the number of local artists that are showcasing their works in the 35th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival at the Civic Center grounds in Susupe.

the flowers are in bloom or not, is also the time to showcase the arts and crafts of the local artists. "I sell my wood carvings here where local and foreign tourists buy them. It is a place for artists like me to show our work."

This will be Finey's 10th straight year of joining the festival. He is originally from Yap, where he learned the art of woodcarving from his father, but came to Saipan in 2003.

"I grew up seeing my father work on with his projects. For him it was a hobby, but seeing him patiently transform wood into works of art, that picture stuck on my mind. That's why I also became a wood carver," added Finey, who is also fresh from showcasing his works of art in an international exhibition in Nepal more than two weeks ago.

"I sold a lot of my work in Nepal and there are a couple

more here at the Flame Tree Festival. That's why right now, my inventory is almost sold out. I only have a few left and it is only the opening," said Finey.

Aside from his woodcarvings, he also sells other items like woven baskets that were also made by other artists. "I just sell them and give all the money to them. I never charge them as a way of helping them get known."

Guam alerts public on no definite NK threat

DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has notified the public of reports from Guam agencies that North Korea may be preparing to launch a ballistic missile.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense noted though, in the same statement shared yesterday, that there were “no definite reports of an immediate threat to Guam or the Northern Marianas,” but said they were closely monitoring the reports.

The Guam offices cite a CNN article. The offices said the article reported that U.S. intelligence satellites have spotted “signs that North Korea may be preparing for a launch of a “Musudan missile,” a mobile intermediate-range ballistic missile, which the U.S. believes could potentially hit Guam and the Shemya Island.”

“Anytime a country threatens with military actions, and in this case, North Korea, it is unnerving and disconcerting particularly since NK claims its missiles have the range to reach our islands,” said the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres yesterday.

“It is reassuring to know that Homeland Security is monitoring these threats closely,” it added.

The Guam offices are coordinating with the Mariana Regional Fusion Center, or MRFC, in monitoring these reports.

Severe drought hits Micronesia

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Federal scientists say that U.S.-affiliated nations in the Micronesia region are facing extreme drought conditions that have led to water rationing, emergency shipment of bottled water and health concerns.

The *Pacific Daily News* reports that a U.S. National Weather Service report from April 1 says government officials in the Marshall Islands, Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia have declared states of disaster or emergency in response to the drought.

Meteorologist Mark Lander says the drought in Palau is the most severe in the island nation’s almost 80 years of recorded history. Efforts have been underway in Guam to send bottled water to Palau.

Guam and the Northern Marianas are experiencing below-average rainfall levels, but the situation in Guam has not yet reached levels for emergency or disaster declarations.

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'3 to 4 wildfires a day occurring on Rota'

Three to four wild land grass fires are occurring on Rota a day, damaging more than 20 percent of the island's land mass area, according to the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services yesterday.

DFEMS spokesman Derek Gersonde said over the past several months they responded to numerous wild land grass fires across the CNMI that damaged several acres of land.

For Rota, Gersonde said in co-operation with the island's mayor, Efrain Atalig, DFEMS has deployed three firefighters from the CNMI Type II hand crew strike team stationed on Saipan to assist Rota DFEMS in fighting and mitigating the fires.

The deployed firefighters are Joseph Rodriguez, Abraham Quitugua, and Ralph Magofna.

"The deployment is to augment the short number of firefighters on Rota in anticipation of more wild land grass fires," he said.

Rota DFEMS currently has five firefighters working around the clock. By August this year, an additional six firefighters from the Fire Academy are anticipated to be as-

signed on the island.

The six cadets are now undergoing Fire Academy training being held at the Fire Training Station in Capital Hill on Saipan.

Gersonde said these fire cadets have already been trained and are currently certified as wild land firefighters for the Type II Hand Crew.

Gersonde said the DFEMS Wild Land Type II firefighters from Saipan will be on a rotating deployment schedule every two weeks.

Gersonde said the deployed firefighters are expected to remain on Rota until the grass fires are no longer a threat to the residences.

DFEMS yesterday also issued tips that will prevent fire damage or total destruction to homes or other structures in the event that a wild land fire burns through the neighborhood.

"Being firewise does not mean your lawn has to be barren or you have to sacrifice the plants you love, and it can be done a little or no cost," Gersonde said.

Gersonde said the most vital tasks to keep home safe from fire hazards are the following:

- Keep your trees pruned

from the base to 6 feet above the ground.

- Remove clutter.
- Keep your lawn mowed.
- Store wood or coconut husks no less than 15 feet from the house.

■ For residences surrounded by *sakati* (saw grass), keep a clearance of 50 feet from your house and other structures, or at least to your property line.

Gersonde said the goal is to keep the fire small enough so it will die out or can be extinguished easily.

"One thing that you must consider is the fire-feeding material that surrounds your structures such as dead grass, branches, or places where leaves may gather," Gersonde.

The DFEMS spokesman said many individuals believe a fire moves through the neighborhood in a wave or tsunami approach, but in fact many homes catch fire due to the ember storm or firebrands that can be found ahead of the flame front.

"Embers may find their way into your home through small holes, vents, or an open window while you're away," he said.

"When these embers eventually land on your home or property, it is important that the surface they land on has a minimal chance of igniting." (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Tan Holdings and IT&E executives hold a ceremonial ribbon cutting recognizing Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan as the first commercial establishment in Saipan to be connected to IT&E's new underground fiber optic cable.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Fiesta 1st to be connected to IT&E underground fiber optic

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan has become the first hotel on island to have a taste of IT&E's faster connection using the underground fiber optic cable that they are currently installing around the island.

Tan Holdings and IT&E executives marked the significant event in a ceremonial ribbon cutting yesterday.

A commemorative plaque was also presented to Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan for Fiesta Resort being "the first commercial user of fiber optic technology in the CNMI."

With the introduction of this technology, higher speed Internet can be experienced by patrons of the hotel.

"We're very happy we're the first one on Saipan," Fiesta Resort general manager Abner Acosta said.

"We chose Fiesta because they were ready first. They've been a good customer of ours for a very long time," IT&E chief operating officer John Compton said, "It happened rather naturally actually, they needed it and about the time that we were finishing our work going by the hotel, it was relatively easy for us to do it."

"They were very agreeable, very cooperative because there are some work that we have to do inside the hotel to connect everything together," Compton said.

10 times faster

Compton said, compared to the copper DSL that they currently have which has a physical limit of 10 megabytes per second, the fiber optic cable lines can handle up to 1 gigabyte per second or 1,000 mbps.

Acosta described their updated connection as "10 times faster than the regular digital subscriber line."

"We've had it for four days and you can really see the difference," Acosta said, "I'm sure our guests are very happy with this development."

Acosta said many of the tourists on Saipan are disappointed with the kind of connection speed that we have on island.

"That has come up with our

surveys with guests, one of the disappointments—not only here but around Saipan—is slow Internet," Acosta said.

For Tan, having this technology is not only an upgrade that is beneficial to Fiesta Resort but to the whole CNMI as a destination.

"The main reason is really for the experience of our guests," Tan said. "Their home country and everywhere they go, in other destinations, high-speed Internet is a must."

"That's what they expect because high-speed Internet is what they get," he added.

Tan said it is important not to disappoint tourists and continue the same speed that they enjoy back home. He

also noted that communication is a big part of traveling nowadays.

"It's really about us as a destination. Eventually in other hotels, restaurants, everywhere tourists will enjoy the same high-speed experience that they experience everyday in their lives so we can make sure that they really are happy tourists when they come here," Tan said.

Connecting everyone

This project being undertaken by IT&E is expected to spread out through the entire island as well as to Tinian and Rota within a five-year timeline.

"We are building an island-wide fiber optic cable network that will eventually replace our copper network," Compton said.

"Eventually this is going to cover the whole island and Tinian and Rota as well," he added.

IT&E currently has three crews working seven days a week on various locations on Saipan to install the fiber optic cables.

According to Compton, it will take them "no more than two weeks" to connect another establishment to their fiber optic.

Compton added that not only commercial establishments will get to enjoy the high-speed connectivity of their cable but residents as well.

"They will eventually, we don't have the equipment for residences yet, its coming, but yes it will absolutely improve the residences," Compton said.

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SDA Lego robotics team unsure of going to nationals

The Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School's Lego robotics team wowed the judges, earning them several awards in last Sunday's 10th Annual North Pacific Regional Robotics Challenge at the Walla Walla Valley Academy College Place in Washington.

They also received the admiration of the other competing teams as the Saipan SDA squad came from a small island thousands of miles away from the mainland and managed to overcome all odds to reap honors in the regionals.

The team, nicknamed the Guardians, topped the Robot Design category, while their Project Presentation—the research of turning waste to energy—also got first place honors. They also finished second in Core Values and finished second overall out of 15 competing teams.

Rannon Palacios, Sion Park, Miles Timmons, Cory

Lee, and Harvey Zhang are the members of the Guardians. Palacios, Park, and Timmons were the only ones who traveled to Washington.

Clinching four awards, two of which are first place, the Guardians earned an invitation to the national tournament on May 1 in Sacramento, California. They are one of three teams from the North Pacific Region that earned the invitation.

Now comes the hard part, the Guardians—that represented the CNMI in the regionals—are unsure of competing in the nationals due to lack of funds. They only have less than two weeks to raise close to \$15,000 to fund the trip of the entire team, all five members plus two guardians.

“Right now, we only have \$2,000. There's also a GoFundMe account but we won't get all the money since they have an 8 percent fee. We're hoping for a miracle and we remain

positive,” said coach Melanie Stroud, who previously helped another Adventist-run school in Alaska win the Adventist Robotics League Nationals.

“We're still hoping they can go and represent the CNMI. If there are still organizations that are more than willing to help us, they are always welcome. That's a slight disadvantage on our part, it's always hard to go back to the mainland,” said SDA School principal Michael Berglund.

“We didn't know what to expect from them in the regionals since this is the first time an SDA school from Saipan is competing. They were also up against schools that have a lot more resources, but these kids surprised us,” added Berglund.

“The kids worked hard for this to get the project done. After school and during Sundays they work on the robot. We all know that the nationals is a much bigger competition, if ever they are going we just tell them the same thing, ‘represent the CNMI as best as you can.’”

Berglund also praised Stroud's efforts of guiding the team. “Melanie has taught in all levels. She has helped these kids and taught them everything that she knew in Lego robotics. She has the experience since she previously coaches a team in Alaska to win the Nationals.” (Jon Perez)

Team BSI-Chacha Lancheros sets happy hour fundraiser

Team Best Sunshine International-Chacha Lancheros will be hosting a happy hour fundraising event tomorrow, April 16, at Joe's Bar & Grill on Beach Road in South Garapan.

Tickets are \$20 each that includes two free beers, chasers, and the chance to win great raffle prizes.

“We applaud Best Sunshine International and the Chacha Oceanview Middle School Lancheros for teaming up in the fight against cancer,” said MMAC overall committee vice chair Chris A. Concepcion.

“We encourage the community to support Team BSI-Chacha Lancheros as they raise badly needed funds for local cancer

patients in the CNMI,” added Concepcion, who is inviting the community to support MMAC on May 13 to 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field.

For more information on Team BSI-Chacha Lancheros please email team captains Alex I. Palacios at apalacios@bestsunshinesaipan.com, Edalyn Benjamin at ebenjamin@bestsunshinesaipan.com or Rose T. Jones at rose.aimanao@cnmipss.org.

For more information, email MMAC overall committee chair Geri C. Dela Cruz at geri.delacruz2@gmail.com or call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 6820050 or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)



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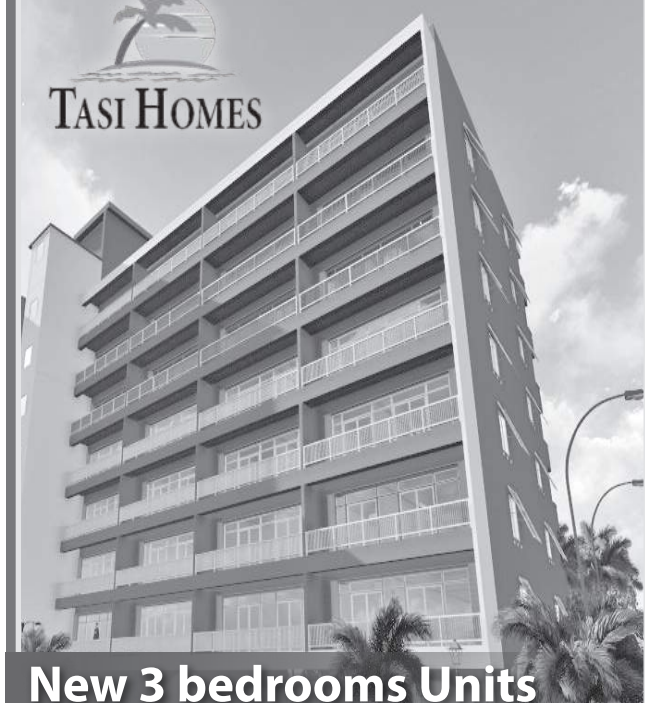
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Brabu's Parker helps employees succeed

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ted Parker is more than just a boss to his employees. The owner and general manager of Brabu Pharmacy has helped his staff succeed in other ways, like facilitating a number of them to earn degrees and advance their careers in the pharmaceutical field.

"We have a workforce that is always ready to assist you. We trained them to be caring and mindful of how our customers feel," said Parker, who was the guest speaker in last Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Giovanni's restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"It is a matter of taking people and giving them the

opportunity to succeed. I believe that if you support and reward your employees, they will give you good service in return," he added.

Aside from giving salary raises and bonuses, Parker said that he has also helped mentor at least 12 of his employees in the pharmaceutical field. "I helped them enroll in a one-year online program for pharmacy technicians and they eventually took the national board exams in Guam."

Pharmacy technicians worked under the supervision of licensed pharmacists, individuals who help administer the safe and effective use of medicines of patients and sick individuals.

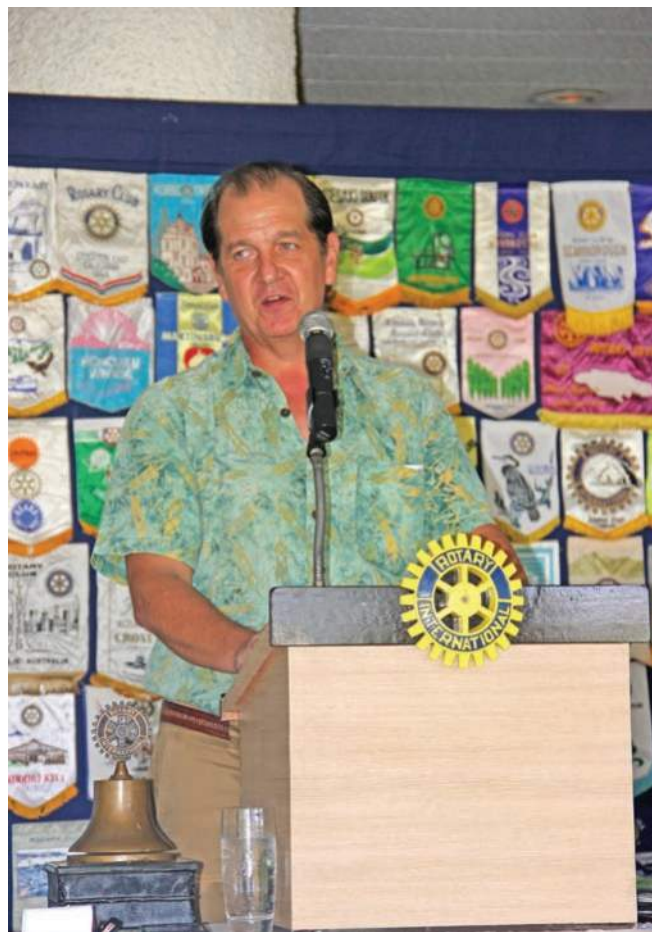
Out of the 12, Parker added, six went to the main-

land for further studies like becoming a licensed pharmacist. In fact, one has enrolled at Boston University's School of Public Health.

"There's also one who is studying at the University of the Pacific. There's also one from Tinian who went to pharmacy school with the promise of coming back after graduation to help the community. Now I can say that I can retire," Parker said with a chuckle.

He said that one thing that his pharmacist father taught him was most of the time the people who go to the pharmacy are either sick or are feeling something.

"What I've learned from my dad is that most of the time the people who come in a pharmacy have something



JON PEREZ

Brabu Pharmacy owner and general manager Ted Parker was the guest speaker in last Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

going on with them. That's why you have to make sure you show that you're caring and are there for them to help," said Parker.

A side event of last Tuesday's meeting was the Rotary Club welcoming Greg Borja and Shamika J. Ratwatte as new members.

Emergency water service interruption in Koblerville

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in Koblerville are experiencing a temporary water service interruption due to a 2" service lateral and 8" water main break in Koblerville.

Water operations personnel are currently addressing the issue and repairs are anticipated to be completed last night and customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of services soon thereafter. For the safety of CUC's men and women working at the site, motorists are urged to slow down or to take alternative routes if possible.

Areas affected are As Gonno Road toward Coral Ocean Point, Tinaktak Drive, Tinala Avenue, and Potu Court.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)



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By: Denise M. Mendiola
April 20, 2016

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By PHIL YORIO
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Power quality the silent killer

Being on an island with a non-interconnected utility can have its issue with power quality for your residences and businesses. Power quality issues such as rolling brownouts, voltage sags, spikes or surges, electrical noise, low power factor, and harmonic distortion can cause severe monetary damages to your dwelling. In today's market you cannot take the power that you are receiving from the utility for granted and luckily the time has come where you do not have too.

The growing use of microprocessors in house appliances such as washers, dryers, stoves, and air-conditioning units in a household and office equipment in a business such as copiers, computers, and any control equipment has heightened our awareness for the need for stable, reliable, and sustainable energy.

Buildings with solar energy systems can rest assure

that the power that these systems produced if they are designed and installed correctly with the right equipment produce perfect power coming out of their inverters supplying the buildings energy with their system. But unless these systems are backed up with batteries come nighttime the buildings will be back on utility power, which can be a problem.

But there is an answer, with the growing need to protect our equipment from power anomalies and with the huge strides in technology advancement you can now purchase and have installed a very reasonable cost a Power Quality Protection Device. In fact, these units are now so reasonable that they are a

must for any homeowner, renter, or business owner. But be careful because there are a lot of USELESS devices out there that make incredible claims that they cannot be backed up and never come to fruition.

One device that I highly recommend and have actually tested myself in my office building for over eight months now is called the GESPER unit. GESPER actually stands for Green Energy Surge Protection and Energy Protection. This device is incredible it will not only protect everything in your house and business from the panelboard to the branch circuits but will also increase the efficiency of the energy coming in, saving you money on your energy bill's at the same time.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Phil Yorio is the general manager of Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc.-CNMI.

A few other notable mentions of the advantages of having this unit installed are this unit will correct the power factor on your energy coming into your building, this will increase the lifespan on motors and condensers in your household or business allowing them to run cooler and more efficient. For every 10 degrees that you lower the temperature on a motor you more than double its life expectancy. This unit will also clean up any electrical noise and harmonic distortion on your incoming energy. Gesper also protects all of your internal equipment from spikes or surges that are becoming the norm and are causing a lot of damage to appliances, TV, and building air-conditioning units.

One of the most impressive attributes of this life saving unit is that it comes with a 10-year warranty and a \$2-million per surge incident insurance policy, they are really standing behind their product, very nice to see in a time when there are a lot of snake oil sales people out there selling junk and staking claims that cannot be proven. In my long career in the energy business I believe that you must test something before you endorse it, believe me this unit is tested true!

Saipan will have field voting for 2016 PH overseas elections

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A field voting for the ongoing 2016 Philippine national overseas elections will be conducted on Saipan this month.

This was confirmed by honorary consul to the Philippines Glicerio Arago and the Philippine Consulate General in Guam.

"The field voting is already approved in principle, it's just a matter of schedule," consul Gary Auxilian told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

Auxilian said they are still waiting for confirmation from the Philippines' Commission on Election on when exactly to hold the field voting.

The entire period for overseas voting is from April 9 to May 9.

Auxilian said they will be making announcements as soon as a date is finalized.

For Palau, field voting will

be held on April 20 to 22.

According to Auxilian, two registered voters from Saipan were able to vote in Guam as they were already in their office.

Overseas voting in Guam which started right on the first day, is also running smoothly, Auxilian said.

He added that the ballots for Saipan are ready and in fact, they have mailed some already to voters who wanted to receive their ballots via mail.

So far, their office has received 24 requests to send ballots through mail.

For Tinian and Rota, all ballots were already mailed, except for one resident on Rota named Erlinda Reyes whose address they are still trying to verify.

Registered overseas voters of PCG-Guam who desire to receive their ballots through mail are requested to submit their requests to the Special

Ballot Reception and Custody Group on or before April 22.

Ballots for the Marshal Islands and other islands in Micronesia have also been mailed.

Auxilian said that the Special Ballot Reception and Custody Group who will be bringing the ballots to Saipan will be distributing them to voters who personally appear before them.

Voters will have an option to fill the ballot on site or take it home. If they decide to take it home, they will need to use the return envelope provided and affix their signature above their printed name. without these, ballots may be invalidated.

PCG-Guam reminded Filipinos to check their names in the Certified List of Overseas Voters (CLOV) for GUAM, which can be found in philippinesguam.org or in the COMELEC website <http://www.comelec.gov.ph>.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

In America, the worst campaign to run is unopposed

You can't beat somebody with nobody. As political adages go, that one has proved durable and true. However, if America's relentless march toward blue-state-red-state polarization continues, "nobody" may become an increasingly common option on voter ballots.

Four states lack a major-party competitor for current U.S. Senate races, the Smart Politics blog at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute of Public Policy reported this week. Democrats have yet to field a candidate in Alaska or Oklahoma, and Republicans have blank slates in Hawaii and Vermont.

The paucity of candidates in these states is no great surprise. In Oklahoma, Democrats have failed to break 30 percent in the past three Senate contests. Hawaii Republicans, for their part, have lost 16 consecutive Senate races, usually capturing less than 40 percent of the vote.

This lack of opposition reinforces the partisan divide in Washington. For many members of Congress, the threat of a primary opponent is more real than the prospect of a robust general-election challenge.

It's bad enough that polarization squeezes competition out of a system that's designed to encourage it. But if parties fail to field a candidate, especially in statewide races for U.S. Senate, the electorate is denied even the potential for genuine debate. It's hard to challenge conventional wisdom, lazy assumptions or party dogma if there's no one on the opposite side to make the case.

You don't need to summon Britain's finest hour or "Dewey Defeats Truman" to appreciate that democracy sometimes requires faith in the long shot. American political parties represent the whole of the nation. (When they fail to, the results are profoundly ugly.) They should field qualified candidates for every seat in the House of Representatives and, certainly, the Senate — and make sure those candidates have the resources to make their appeals to voters.

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Big Oil

Italian oil company executive Enrico Mattei coined the term "Seven Sisters" to refer to oil companies that formed the "Consortium for Iran" cartel that dominated the trade of petroleum from mid-'40s to the '70s. The group consisted of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (now BP); the Standard Oil Company of New York (Socony) that is now merged with Esso/Exxon to form Exxon/Mobil; the Royal Dutch Shell; and Standard Oil of California and Gulf Oil that merged with Texaco, now Chevron.

The "sisters" controlled around 85 percent of the world's petroleum reserves that fueled the post-1929 turn into industrial production, later stood against the ascendant German economy bouncing back from the humiliation of the Treaty of Versailles. Iran nationalized its oil in 1951; Big Oil determined the history of Iran and Iraq, the royal house of Saud in Araby, and the rest of the Middle East.

OPEC and state-owned oil companies emerged and created a market economy after 1973. Outside of the traditional seven sisters, the "new seven sisters" (by the Financial Times of London) are Saudi Aramco, PetroChina (China), Gazprom (Russia), NIOC (Iran), Petrobras (Brazil), Petroleos (Venezuela), and Petronas (Malaysia).

As the premier producer of oil, the House of Saud "socialized" within the royalty and the traditional Islamic underpinning in the land that birthed Islam. Anshallah, Allah willing, after all, is a social notion guided by prescriptions of the Koran in societies now coming to their own.

We often sneer at two terms, ISIS and al'Queda, which are not really well identified by these names in the Middle East save by the media. They are infamous for beheading Western-trained journalist and technicians in the Oil Fields. They are groups who are utopian in their thinking and philosophy but we insist on defaming them only because they are Moslems. They use beheadings, a method not uncommon in the area including the House of Saud whose assets in the sand has been Big Oil's for the asking, and, of course, we propped the Sunni Saddam Hussein to fight the Shi'ites of Iran who had the temerity to defy our derricks earlier.

Texas oilmen hold the patents of the industry's technology so the calf-covered boots and wide-brim hatted cowboy by the derrick staring at a gushing black gold was the picture of oil exploration around the world until the 80s. Then Houston turned into a financial hub but the iconic and ruggedly individualistic Texan took time to go the way of the derrick that once dotted the waterscape of Lake Maracaibo (the gallows hangman of the 17th C, lent his name Derrick to the framework).

Big Oil is our new dependent. Solar and thermal technologies

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



for energy are affordable but the combustion engine makers and the fossil fuel merchants refuse to risk earnings for the larger cause of mitigating air pollution and making street machines eco-friendly. Solar panels that run trains are "too expensive" because we do not wish to switch from car privacy to scheduled runs of rails and vans. Saipan plans a massive transit system for residents, but tourist pay for private cars and monstrous buses.

We do not feel much of the pinch of Big Oil in the air we breathe. With the illusion that the commodity is now affordable, private cars are popular. Mobil and Shell share island facilities and practically one company. But precisely because their profit is negligible compared to the larger markets, they are in a position to experiment with alternative power sources.

We can fund small electrical hybrids that run at specific times especially up the hills, to and from specific locations, like scheduled public buses elsewhere. Personal two-four-six-seater make us impulsively move to the counter car keys. The reflex has become common as private cars now cause grid locks in our roads, specially when Public Works is in the middle of road repair.

PSS "Student First" buses and vans pick up students, while the air-con buses that take visitors to the Galleria in Garapan are huge monsters appropriate for 65 mph-speed super highways but unnecessary to the breeze-sustained ambience of Saipan. Island attractions are not hotel lobbies. It's the beaches and the pathway, the bush and the forests, the flora and the fauna. Would it not be wonderful to have a pathway around the islands, a decent bicycle and pedestrian lane on the middle roads and the mountain paths, on all roadways in the CNMI?

Big Oil can do itself a favor by leading and funding experiments on how appropriate technology can sustain island life. Speed is not of the essence, functionality and ease of use, are.

Big Oil opposes Obama's Executive Order to suspend coal mining for three years. I was in the Canada and the U.S. when the production of electric cars was downgraded because of pressures on the industry; ditto to what was a booming promise in China to develop electrical plugging stations but had not received assistance.

We see Shell-Mobil logos on sports tournaments. That all? Just askin'.

As financial crisis deepens

The bad times have blinded our sight on the growing financial crisis at home. People at the helm prefer ignoring the colossal financial mess for fear it has no choice but to brave deficit spending in the stormy sea of red ink.

The obvious divide between the elite and ordinary citizens is wedged even further. It's like the bull and cart have each gone its own way. Each is loose heading into the crowd as we watch who could get hurt or killed. Dangerous!

Parading under our nose for over a decade are two federal policies we've opted to ignore: labor and immigration. They're the two most destructive policies against the fragile dystopian economy—where nothing works—preferring to toy with remedial gun control laws. Perhaps there's the sense that if we "whine" louder the feds would grant us another Christmas wish.

Then came the longstanding problem in the lack of water especially in the business center. Two decades of waltzing with the same mess only to find out that the problem has metastasized or spread into stage four cancer. Simultaneously, we hear expressions of planned growth on investments even without the emplacement of basic infrastructure. Isn't this a glaring anomaly in the way we plan our future?

The only major project rolling down the runway is Best Sunshine's hotel facility. But when it turns on its water and power, what happens to the immediate community? Do we blame BSI or the NMI for planning failure? Can the water problem support any further development? Unless something gives so-called leadership would be sashaying around as fulltime Cyclops.

Sacrificial Lamb: Under Covenant Section 603 the NMI was excluded from the customs territory of the U.S. In brief, manufactured products from the NMI entering U.S. markets would not be taxed. We did very well in the apparel industry, a \$2.1 billion sector that complimented other investments like tourism granting the NMI sufficient funds in the mid-eighties for most of its basic needs. In fact, in 1993 we told the U.S. Congress no more grant funds!

Such tidings that our apparel industry mushroomed into the \$2

billion plateau didn't sit well with former California Congressman George Miller. He sees our success as "unfair" competition for paying workers here below federal minimum wage pay. Well, sir, it was the only level the NMI could afford then. Why would it bother you?

Sure enough, under pressure by his labor unions he had to concoct an agenda to destroy the NMI's apparel industry so in the end he saves the garment industry in his backyard.

Use of the U.S. mainland liberal media focused on human rights abuse. Isn't this also a fact in the garment industry between New York and California? Or was the media's paid trip out here a good vacation time?

The net effect of the apparel industry's destruction championed by Miller is joblessness and hopelessness to date. There isn't an iota of breadcrumbs on the floor for villagers to scrounge up for the family dinner table. Where are Kilili and the "solutions driven" team on this issue?

Fodder for Comedy

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is rumored to be re-arranging its Saipan airport office to accommodate Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog recently tasked the harbor project.

The CPA board needs someone who owns a ship and is clever siphoning public funds without the constitutionally mandated legislative appropriation.

His Senate lapdog would also be hired to drive Hocog around, a similar job he once had in Guam with medical referral.

Delta Airlines is also fixing room and board for Ralph and Victor to use as intermediate quarters before heading out for another junket trip paid for by taxpayers.

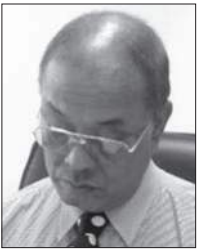
■ ■ ■

Meanwhile, there's the involuntary disappointment whenever I accidentally turn to channel 23 only to see a bunch of confused people talking, not speaking, persistently disoriented. But the entry and exit are instant. The lack of wisdom turns the trip into long yawn sessions. Thus, the quick exit to avoid developing dyslexia.

Admirable though efforts to impress spectators with garbled English further blurred and highlighted by the lack of common sense, clarity and coherence.

By **JOHN DELROSARIO**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

The troop is comprised of the "hmm, hmm, hmmm", "nu, nu, nu," and "uh, uh, uh" categories. The first think they could think, struggling. The second gropes for words to connect, while the last think they sound intelligent but parked their IQs in their back pockets. It's good fodder for comedy.

It is further highlighted by the absence of sentences signifying a complete thought substituted with incomplete Chamorro-English, epenthesis and hapology. There's the predictive shallow discussion spiked by braggadocio. Though frustrating, it was still amusing in that I haven't heard chopped Chamorro-English used for a long time. Last I heard it was back in the third grade.

Some legislators braved the notion that the NMI is sovereign and peddled appealing the local gun control law ruled unconstitutional in recent weeks. I mean, where does one go after the U.S. Supreme Court? It's very humiliating. Or did their civics course include the creation of another supreme court? May we see your textbook on Problems of American Democracy so we could ID your self-concocted court?

In the Senate, I found it is no longer the traditional sturdy voice of reason. I mean some of the guys are basically mute. I heard a Rota senator attempt to say something only to confuse everybody, including himself. What he said in English was unintelligible. His Chamorro is completely without rhyme or reason. I figure he's incapable of any sense of organized thought so he sounds at least halfway decent. Is he really a representative of his people?

You listen to the likes of Senators Paul Manglona and Terry Santos and it's easy discerning their fluency and logical thought process arguing a point. Why can't the bench warmer freshman and loose-tongued senators emulate their senior colleagues in the use of rhyme and reason?

Signs of middle age

One of my friends reports that his laptop computer went AWOL for a day. It re-appeared in the refrigerator. Why he put it in the fridge to begin with, he doesn't know, but he remembers juggling a bunch of tasks in the kitchen after he got home from work, so he's probably going to find a quart of milk in his briefcase.

We decided we'd better tally some signs of middle age right away, before we all start forgetting. Some of the flashback items apply more to mainland life than Saipan life, so if that messes things up, you can simply cross out the offending items, re-number the list, and you're good to go. Anyway, here are the signs:

It's mid-April, and you're already finished your 2016 Christmas shopping.

■ When it's time to prepare for a typhoon's imminent arrival, you calmly address the situation by taking a nap.

■ You remember when sunlight was healthy. And then when it wasn't. And then when it was again. Ditto for butter, red wine, and coffee.

■ You remember FORTRAN, COBOL, BASIC, DOS, Lotus, and WordStar.

■ You've finally given up trying to understand Nietzsche.

■ You know how to change the ribbon on a typewriter.

■ You remember when Cadillacs were the Cadillacs of automobiles.

■ You know that Timex takes a licking and keeps on ticking. You also know that Alka-Seltzer goes "plop plop fizz fizz," that nobody doesn't like Sara Lee, and that "Datsun saves." And you'll never

forget that Maxwell House coffee is good to the last drop, that's Folgers coffee is the richest kind, and that Chock full o'Nuts is not only heavenly coffee, but is better than a millionaire's money can buy.

■ You remember when motor oil came in cardboard cans.

■ You remember when "10" meant actress Bo Derek.

■ You remember when Amazon was launched and you sneered at the idea, saying, "Nobody will buy books on the Internet. That's what bookstores are for."

■ You remember when people had to look at a map to understand where China is.

■ You still consider the F-4 Phantom the coolest fighter jet, though you'll allow that the F-5 is sexier.

■ You realize that people who can't alphabetize the folders in file cabinets make more money than people who can.

■ You know that a percolator is. And a slide rule. And an 8-track. And a mimeograph.

■ Those salacious old disco songs? They now strike you as charmingly innocent.

■ You remember when presenting a credit card, the store clerk would look up the card number in a printed booklet to see if the card was stolen or canceled.

■ When you're at the veterans' club, you realize that the Vietnam vets have much of the old-school wisdom, so you always seek their advice on things.

■ You remember when the year 2000 was a futuristic notion, by which point people would visit different planets, everybody would wear shiny silver jump suits, and all the cars would have gull-wing doors.

■ You remember when the national evening news ended with the sign off, "And that's the way it is."

By **ED STEPHENS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

■ You remember keeping a toolbox in your car because you knew you could probably fix it if it broke down.

■ You remember when people were people, not human resources.

■ Your idea of an adventurous vacation is staying home for three days so you can test all the features of your new Zojirushi rice maker.

■ You don't feel the slightest urge to correct someone who describes Saipan as a "south Pacific" island. You're also cool with "two plus two equals five." You have finally figured out that as long as it's not going over your signature, it's not your problem.

■ You remember when a nickel candy bar only cost a dime. Ah, those were the days.

■ The last time you knew the price of a first class stamp was at some point in the previous century.

We're still adding to the list, so feel free to email me any ideas you've got; naturally, you should make sure that your Internet router is turned on first. Don't know where your router is? Try checking next to the orange juice.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"...Northern Marianas Decent-ISM"

One of the fundamental differences between communism and democracy is that in a democratic system one is at liberty to do or say almost anything, including denouncing cultural identity. You can even have a bizarre and demonic identity so long as you're not endangering someone else's life. One can even be like Donald Trump who is a classic modern day masquerader and a flip-flopper. One can also be a Democrat or Republican.

On Monday, April 11, 2016, in his letter to the editor, Mr. Rudy Sablan was describing his conversation with a Chamorro man who also identified himself as a Northern Marianas Decent or NMD. It sounded like the man he was talking to was assertive-

ly passionate about his hereditary lineage and proud to be who he is, a Chamorro. The man was referencing not his association with but his identity to a particular group of people indigenous to a particular place.

Among other issues he was raising was the inclusion of Article XII and questioning the essence of Northern Marianas Decent and its importance in the CNMI Constitution. He bemusedly thinks that his ethnicity is not worth protecting because it has no enduring bona fide meaning and cultural redeeming value to him. He was almost apologetic for having it included in Article XII of our Constitution. Questioning the wisdom of

such provision and implicating the decisions and judgements of our constitutional delegates as fundamentally flawed is callously disingenuous.

I don't want to make a case for "ISM" because it is not a person. I do want to say however, that NMD is a person and if any Chamorro/Carolinian, including Mr. Sablan, who doesn't want to be included in that definition and identified as an NMD and wishes to publicly renounce it, is perfectly fine. I just don't take kindly anybody, including Mr. Sablan, trashing those of us who fundamentally believed in our cultural heritages and have an abiding appreciation for who we are as a people.


The thought of a real possibility that Chamorros and Carolinians may be becoming extinct as indigenous people of the Commonwealth was a compelling interest for our constitutional

See NORTHERN on Page 15

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼75°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼76°


SUNDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


MONDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

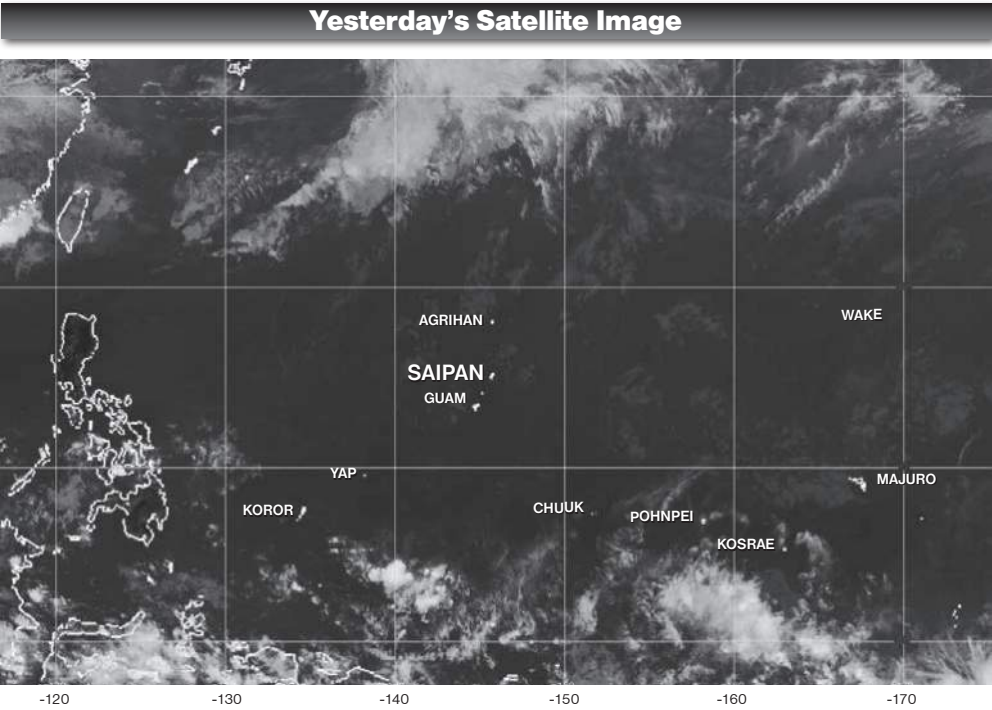
▲86° ▼75°

TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.

▲87° ▼75°



PICTURE TIME: 12:51 PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with a frontal boundary well northeast of the Marianas are found north of line from 23N153E to 23N162E to 24N170E. A cold front runs southwestward from 25N140E to beyond 130E at 22N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present along and up to 300 miles north of the cold front. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers southeast of Yap and Koror within 80 miles of a line from 6N137E to 3N144E. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae south of a line from 3N151E to 5N155E to 1N170E. Another trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers southeast of the Marshall Islands between 6N and the equator from 173E to the date line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼78
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼78
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼79
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Sunny	▲71	▼59
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲77	▼55
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲79	▼73
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼71
London	Showers	▲59	▼44
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼53
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲96	▼79
Melbourne	Sunny	▲82	▼54
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼71
New York	Sunny	▲61	▼42
Osaka	Sunny	▲65	▼47
Paris	Showers	▲62	▼50
Pusan	Sunny	▲63	▼48
Rome	Sunny	▲70	▼54
Salem	Thunderstorms	▲56	▼41
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼49
Seoul	Sunny	▲76	▼46
Tokyo	Windy	▲66	▼48
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲65	▼44



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
4:23 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
10:06 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
2:44 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
10:04 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:32 PM
Monday	6:01 AM	6:32 PM
Tuesday	6:00 AM	6:32 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	1:00 PM	1:10 AM
Saturday	1:51 PM	1:56 AM
Sunday	2:41 PM	2:39 AM
Monday	3:29 PM	3:20 AM
Tuesday	4:16 PM	4:00 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM	UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM	UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM	UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR	UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM	UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM	UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN	OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
				UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

ON HARM TO MARIANAS SPECIES:

Navy agrees to consult federal biologists

Following receipt of a notice of intent to sue from concerned citizens, the U.S. Navy has agreed to consult the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service over threats to endangered and threatened species posed by the Navy's plans to expand training and testing activities in the Mariana Islands.

In February, a coalition of groups represented by Earthjustice gave formal notice of their intent to sue the Navy and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act. A Biological Opinion the Fish & Wildlife Service issued in

2015 assessed the impacts on only two species of the Navy's Mariana Islands Training and Testing program, which covers the entire Mariana archipelago. When 23 additional species from the Mariana Islands were listed as threatened or endangered under the Act last October, the Navy was required to reinstate consultation with the Service.

The failure to do so violated Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, which requires federal agencies to ensure their actions will not jeopardize species' continued

existence. The February letter gave the Navy and Fish & Wildlife Service 60 days to resolve that violation. On March 31, the Navy sent a letter to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to initiate consultation on the 18 of the 23 newly listed species that the Navy determined could be affected by the expanded training.

"This legally mandated consultation is an important step to ensure that the Navy's actions do not push any of these newly listed species closer to extinction," said Earthjustice staff attorney Da-

vid Henkin. "Had citizens not taken action to hold the Navy accountable, it's doubtful the Navy would have ever scrutinized the threats its actions pose to these species."

"In its letter initiating consultation, the Navy admits its activities in the Marianas can harm species teetering on the brink of extinction, whether from misfired munitions, training-related fires, trampling or introducing invasive species," said Juanita Mendiola,

spokesperson for Tinian-based community group Fa-

nacho Marianas. "We will carefully monitor the consultation to make sure the Navy does whatever is needed to protect these species — all but one of which are found in the Marianas and nowhere else on Earth—for future generations."

Earthjustice sent the notice of intent to sue letter on behalf of: Alternative Zero Coalition, Center for Biological Diversity, Fanacho Marianas, Guardians of Gani, Oceania Resistance, PaganWatch, Tinian Premier Football Club, and Tinian Women's Association. (PR)

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Registration for NMC's ABE Program continues this week

The Northern Marianas College's Adult Basic Education (ABE) program, which focuses on meeting the educational needs of adult learners, has announced the following revised dates for Session IV, which begins in mid-April and ends in May.

ABE Session IV 2016 Calendar

- April 11-15: Late Registration M-F 9am-5pm, ABE Office in Building T
- April 11-15: Add/Drop Course(s) Week ABE Office in Building T
- April 13: First day of instruction
- May 24: Last day of instruction

New students and those who have been out of the ABE program for over a year must make an appointment at the Adult Basic Education (ABE) Office located in Building T to take the CASAS Assessment Test. This schedule is subject to change. For additional information, contact ABE office; NMC Building T or contact us at 237-6713. (PR)

SVES new student

registration starts on June 20

San Vicente Elementary School new student registration for School Year 2016-2017 is scheduled to begin on June 20, 2016 for (1st grade to 5th grade) from 9am through 3pm in the school main office. To ensure your child is placed on the roster, we encourage parents/guardians to register during the above date and times. This will assist the school with proper placement for the upcoming school year.

Registration requirements: (All documents must be presented upon registration)

- Copy of birth certificate
- Original health certificate (from public health or any private clinic)
- Copy of an updated medical insurance (Medicaid, government or private insurance, or student accidental insurance policy holders)

- Map of residential location
- Copy power of attorney/legal guardianship (if applicable)

- Withdrawal form from existing school and copy of the most recent report card.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us 664-3981 through 84 or 237-3791. (PR)

SVES kindergarten registration period June 13-17

San Vicente Elementary School registration for Kindergarten for School Year 2016-2017 is scheduled to begin on June 13 until June 17, from 9am to 11:30am and from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Registrations will take place in the school main office. There are limited slots available therefore we encourage all parents/guardians to register during the above dates and times to ensure their kindergarten child is enrolled for the upcoming school year. Your child must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 30, 2011.

Registration requirements: (All documents must be presented upon registration)

- Copy of birth certificate
- Original health certificate (from public health or any private clinic)

- Copy of an updated medical insurance (Medicaid, government or private insurance, or student accidental insurance policy holders)

- Map of residential location

- Copy power of attorney/legal guardianship (if applicable)

- Copy of report card or

certificate of completion (from any pre-school)

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 664-3981 through 84 or 237-3791. (PR)

AG's Cup Speech Competition on May 6

The Office of the Attorney General is pleased to announce that the 32nd Annual Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition will be held on May 6, 2016, at 9am at the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom.

This year, seven high schools will be participating: Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Mt. Carmel School, Grace Christian Academy, Marianas Baptist Academy, Dr. Rita H. Inos High School, and Northern Marianas Academy.

This year's topic focuses on the right to bear arms in the CNMI. The issue present-

ed is: (1) Should the CNMI permit individuals to carry handguns on their person in public? If the answer is yes, argue whether individuals should be required to conceal the handgun, whether individuals should be required to carry the handgun open and in plain sight, or whether individuals should be permitted to choose whether to conceal or openly carry the handgun. In addition, outline any restrictions you would impose on individuals seeking to carry handguns in public; (2) If your answer is no, should the CNMI permit individuals to carry handguns on their person in public, please provide argument in defense of this position. The Office of the Attorney General welcomes the public to attend the speech competition and support the students of the CNMI. (PR)

NORTHERN

From Page 13

delegates. Not protecting the possible demise of an indigenous population within the islands of the Commonwealth would be an unconscionable and abominable act and the constitutional delegates made an imperative moral and cultural decision to institutionalize its protection. Section-by-section analysis of the Constitution revealed the deliberative passions of our delegates and their decisions and judgements was not an afterthought.

The colossal threat of a pos-

sible extinction of indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian may be fictionally insignificant to Mr. Sablan, as his argument seems to indicate, but for those of us who are still clinging on to our cultural heritages and traditional values passed on by our ancestors, it is who and what we are that matters most. The ratification of our Constitution by overwhelming majority of our local people was because of its provisions, inclusive of Articles XI and XII which embodies our inalienable right to protect our distinct traditional way of life. Affirming its importance was further engrained in the Preamble of our CNMI Constitution. Our

traditions and cultural beliefs are indispensable, untradeable and unforfeitable because it is dignified. It is through our action that causes indignity to ourselves.

Mr. Sablan is a blessed person because he is Chamorro and Carolinian living in both worlds. But then again, this does not have much significance to him because he sounded that cares less of his heritage. As for his other arguments, it's pointless to conversationally engage, he already indignified his ethnicity and I respect his decision nevertheless.

Daniel O. Quitugua
Vice president, NMDC

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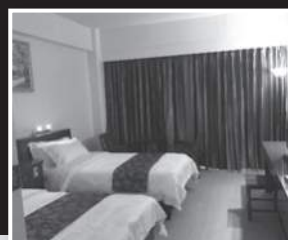
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Lawmaker worried about CNMI water situation



Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) said problems with water in the CNMI would become even greater as the community expands.

He said the old water system could no longer support such need for what would eventually turn into a scarce source especially in the business center of Saipan.

“The islands would continue running into long dry season while its water is drawn from shallow water wells that depletes quickly turning into a hardship for families all over,” Manglona said.

He noted that a preliminary study by a certain firm says, “Tidal fluctuations, seawater intrusion, and excessive pumping has resulted in a water supply of decreased quality and increasing salinity due to the capture of brackish water from this fickle and increasingly unreliable groundwater resource.”

“Saipan, the business center, needs about 12 million gallons of water per day its availability more than likely heading into scarcity land as major projects are emplaced”, he pointed out.

“There’s an option to resolve the growing water scarcity issue in what’s known as ‘underground dam’ that requires study and analysis to determine if there’s sufficient water streams to collect that would feed and refill water storage facilities in at least three areas on the island,” he said.

“The option available would require a lot of money and this is where the NMI could appeal for technical and financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Interior for help,” he said. “It’s an issue that requires timely decision from leadership given that the project necessarily goes through time-consuming process.”

“We should be mindful in the sense that the island community constantly expands and the need for water in both residential and private industries increases by leaps and bounds,” he said. “If the issue intensifies because we aren’t sure how to dispose of it then any and all planned development and growth would equally be

compromised.”

“The time to step up to the plate is right here and now before we turn victims of our own indecision”, Manglona said.

Reportedly, the island loses 70 percent of its water, however,

efforts in recent past to fix and replace water pipes in the villages emplaced after the war. “This is the time to assist the utility agency meet this need in addition to a power system that may have reached its capacity,” Manglona said. **(PR)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Bird Island Beach red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Bird Island Beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan’s recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(PR)**

Team Faiye hot lunch fundraising on April 30

Team Faiye, which will be one of the groups participating in the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer, will be having a hot lunch fundraising event on April 30, Saturday, at the 13 Fishermen Memorial Pavilion on Beach Road.

The hot lunch is \$5 each and Team Faiye is raising funds that would be donated to the Commonwealth Cancer Association. The MMAC is set on May 13 and 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

For more information, email team captain Amanda Somol at amandasomol@gmail.com; for MMAC, email overall committee chair Geri Dela Cruz at geri.delacruz2@gmail.com or call CCA at 682-0050 or visit www.ccamarianas.org. **(PR)**

Kagman schools PTSA meeting on April 21

Kagman Elementary, Chacha Middle, and Kagman High schools are inviting all stakeholders to the next PTSA meeting scheduled for April 21, 2016 at 5pm at the Kagman Elementary School Cafeteria.

Agenda items to be discussed will focus on American Red Cross announcements and Chamorro and Carolinian immersion program. **(PR)**

Military training at FDM, W-517 set

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (N3) Guam, would like to inform the general public that the U.S. military unit will be conducting military exercises at Farallon de Mendinilla and Area W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam. The schedule dates and time are as followed:

Date	Time	Location	Training
Apr 19-21, 2016	1am-7am	FDM	69 EBS/Military Training
Apr 18-20, 2016	12pm-10pm	W-517	HSC-25/Military Training

The general location of this activity will be at Farallon de Mendinilla on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants and at Area W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam comprising southwest into International waters.

Due to the danger imposed by these activities, acting governor Victor B. Hocog is strongly advising the general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-Dispatch Center at 237-8000, VHF MARINE CHNL16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. **(PR)**

CUC schedules power interruption this Saturday

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there is a scheduled power interruption on Saturday, April 16, from 7:30am to 12:30pm.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow the CUC line crew to safely replace four rotted primary power poles along Isa Dr. in San Vicente. The power poles are severely rotted and must be replaced immediately to ensure the safety of ongoing vehicular and traffic in the area. CUC greatly appreciates the understanding of the community during this period.

Water services may be affected in the area during the power interruption; however, all services should be restored after the power is re-energized.

Areas to be affected: Kiya 1 (partials of 1st partial): San Vicente Isa Dr. (San Vicente Loop, Tuturam Dr., Hotdu Dr., Cao Ln., Ala Ln., Afok Dr., Lansa Pl., Neuheim Pl., Atkiya Dr., Anaguan Ln., Lupok Way., Ankla Pl., Abaniku Ln., Bentana Dr., Eskalera Ln., Shoko Dr., Gadde Dr., Latte Ln., Metati Pl., Taga Dr., Monitor Pl., Lommok Pl., Kalahi Ln., Nativo Dr., Kommat Way., Lamasa Pl., Palu Ln., Kahida Pl., Laulau Bay Dr., Achon Ln., Railroad Dr., Sinagu Ln., Tininu Pl., Galak Dr., Makpong Pl., Palai Way, Mapga Ln., Langit Ln., Berbena Dr., Pakko Ln., Golondrina Dr., Nifen Ln., TanganTangan Dr., Fresko Pl., San Vicente Church, and San Vicente Elementary School). **(PR)**

Joint Region Marianas, Andersen Air Force Base present MixxedFit Mash-Up

ASAN, Guam—In observance of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, Joint Region Marianas (JRM) and Andersen Air Force Base invite the public to a MixxedFit Mash-Up April 13 at the Ypao Beach Park in Tumon from 6pm to 8pm.

The free event will also promote Child Abuse Prevention Month and Alcohol Awareness Month in April.

“People are coming out to get a good workout in with Mixxed-Fit, but at the same time talking about the very serious reason for the event,” said JRM Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Officer Lt. Jill Cunningham. “We are showing our support for survivors when we openly talk about this issue.”

Participants are encouraged to bring bottled water and a towel. Mixxed Fit is a people-inspired dance fitness program that is a mix of explosive dancing and boot camp toning.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055. **(PR)**

CCA board meets on April 19

The Commonwealth Cancer Association’s Board of Directors will be holding its regular Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 3pm at the CCA Conference Room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. **(PR)**

AMP Visitor Center closed on April 25

The public is advised the American Memorial Park Visitor Center will be closed on Monday, April 25, 2016, due to mandatory training for all park personnel. The Visitor Center will resume normal hours of operations on Tuesday, April 26, 2016, at 9am.

For more information on the park please visit: www.nps.gov/amme. **(PR)**

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP16-DCCA/NAP-079

SUBMISSION: JUNE 13, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**“TO PROVIDE CNMI NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM’S ELIGIBILITY
SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL
AFFAIRS. CNMI NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM”**

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER MARCH 15, 2016 AT THE N.A.P. OFFICE, LOCATED AT THE JTV BUILDING IN AS LITO, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING AND ARE DUE NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, APRIL 28, 2016 AND MUST BE DIRECTED TO MR. WALTER MACARANAS, NAP ADMINISTRATOR BY FAX TO (670) 664-2580 OR E-MAIL TO dccaanap@opticom.com.

IT IS A MANDATORY THAT ALL INTERESTED PARTIES REGISTER WITH THE CNMI DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY VIA E-MAIL TO procurement@opticom.com BY MAY 13, 2016.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ LAURA T. OGUMORO
SECRETARY OF DCCA /S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Opening Date: April 15, 2016
Closing Date: May 6, 2016

Position: Appliance Technician I
Salary: PL 25/01 to PL 25/09 (\$17,700.92 to \$26,131.39 per annum)
(Starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.)

Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC’s employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., **Friday, May 6, 2016, OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than May 6, 2016, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhc.gov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM,) **Small Claims**
) **No.: 14-0460**
Plaintiff,)
vs.) **AMENDED**
JULITA W. TUTIY,) **SUMMONS**
)
Defendant.)

**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:
JULITA W. TUTIY**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the **AMENDED COMPLAINT**, a copy of which can be obtained at the Law Offices of Robert Tenorio Torres in Chalan Kiya, within twenty (20) days after service of this **AMENDED SUMMONS** upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma’ Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this **AMENDED SUMMONS**, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.

SO ORDERED on this 8th day of March, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

Juan C. Tudela and Margarita Diaz Tudela
P.O. Box 503315, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 989-2731 or 588-1577

Pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In Re The Matter Of The) **FCD GU**
Petition To Appoint) **CIVIL ACTION**
General Guardianship For:) **NO: 16-0144**

Kayla Marie Seman Tudela) **NOTICE OF**
Minor Child) **HEARING**
)
By:)
)
Juan C. and Margarita)
D. Tudela)

Petitioners

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on June 02, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 13th day of April, 2016

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

AMP: Youth Conservation Corps internships available

This summer, American Memorial Park will once again host the Youth Conservation Corps program and will be accepting applications through May 6, 2016.

The Youth Conservation Corps is a well-balanced work-learn-earn program that develops an understanding

and appreciation in participating youth of the nation's environment and heritage. YCC participants will engage in a wide variety of conservation and park operations activities that will teach them about the American Memorial Park and the National Park Service's mission to protect special

places for all.

The park will hire between two and four youth in the YCC program at the federal minimum wage. The program will run for up to eight weeks, with participants working up to 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday. The program will begin on June 13,

2016 and go through August 6, 2016. Enrollees must be at least 15 years of age by June 13, 2016 and no older than 18 on Aug. 6, 2016. To apply, applicants must fill out an application and if not 18 years of age, have a parent's or guardian's signature. You will only be contacted if you (or your

child) have been selected and program participants will be selected at random and participation will be dependent on funding being available.

Applications can be picked up Monday through Friday, from 9am through 4pm, at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center

in Garapan, Saipan

For park directions, call (670) 234-7207, extension 2021. For specific questions or concerns regarding the program, feel free to contact Theo K. Chargualaf at theo_chargualaf@nps.gov or (671) 477-7278, extension 1005. **(PR)**

SVES wins Academic Challenge Bowl

San Vicente Elementary School topped the 21st Annual Academic Challenge Bowl for Elementary Schools last Saturday.

The event, hosted by Marian-

as High School's chapter of the National Honor Society, drew a crowd of over 150 people.

A total of 13 schools participated this year: San Vi-

cente Elementary, Green Meadow, Northern Marianas International School, Grace Christian Academy, Saipan International School, GTC El-

ementary, WSR Elementary School, Kagman Elementary School, Garapan Elementary School, Koblerville Elementary School, Agape Christian Academy, Oleai Elementary School, and Sinapalo Elementary School.

School teams consisted of 4th and 5th grade students and were tested in the areas of Language Arts, Science, Math, and Social Studies. Coming in second place was William S. Reyes Elementary School and in third place, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School. **(PR)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

San Vicente Elementary School students show off their hardware after winning the 21st Annual Academic Challenge Bowl for Elementary Schools held last Saturday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

William S. Reyes Elementary School finished second.



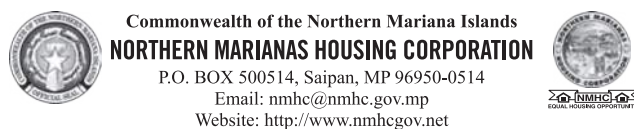
Garapan Elementary School finished third.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Marianas High School's National Honor Society hosted the event.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-010

"PURCHASE OF BRUSH FIRE TRUCK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (DFEMS) - TINIAN"

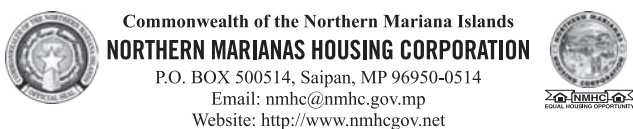
Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman
& Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan,
Director
Division of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-011

"REHABILITATION OF THE KAGMAN COMMUNITY PARK"

Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

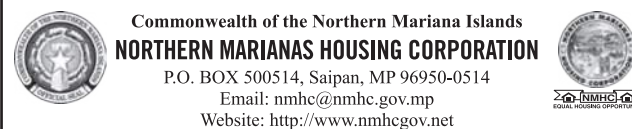
A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 1:00 p.m. on April 28, 2016, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

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Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016 • TIME: 11:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-012

"RENOVATION OF KOBLERVILLE FIRE STATION"

Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 28, 2016, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, or Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Edward C. Sablan
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply



PIC DONATES ETC TO SSHS

Pacific Islands Club Saipan general manager Hiro Sugie hands a check for \$5,000 to Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band director Joshua Sablan. The donation represents the hotel's Educational Tax Credit to the school. Standing to Sablan's left is the SSHS principal Martha Kintol and vice principal Mercedes Deleon Guerrero.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI gets \$4.6M in CIP funding from DOI

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina yesterday approved \$4.6 million grant funding for infrastructure related improvements in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to include the Tinian Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station, the Rota Landfill, and various public schools in the CNMI.

A portion of the funding will also serve as a FEMA Cost Share for Typhoon Soudelor related damages. Earlier this year, \$5 million was awarded to the Commonwealth Utili-

ties Corp. for Stipulated Order (SO) projects required by the U.S. District Court. All assistance is provided through the Office of Insular Affairs' (OIA) Capital Improvement Project Program.

"These funds will help improve long-standing maintenance issues in public schools and help address damage inflicted by the recent natural disaster Typhoon Soudelor," said Assistant Secretary Kia'aina. "We are pleased to support Governor Ralph Torres as he works to address these important issues and advance waste management and recycling projects on Tinian and Rota."

The Capital Improvement Project (CIP) grants include the following:

■ **Public School System** - \$1,000,000 for year two of the 4-year Insular Area Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms (Insular ABC's) health and safety initiative to address critical deferred maintenance issues in the CNMI's public schools. Proposed projects include upgrade of fire alarm systems, emergency vehicle access, replacement of doors, windows, roofs and gutters, as well as plumbing upgrades. The Insular ABC's is a partnership between the OIA and the Army Corps of Engineers

which assessed every public school in the CNMI, created an analysis of general school conditions, and aggregated a detailed database of deferred maintenance needs and associated costs.

■ **Tinian Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station** - \$1,000,000 to construct a new sanitary and environmentally compliant solid waste transfer station facility which would also include ancillary services, such as separation of recyclables. The island of Tinian currently operates an open dump not compliant with the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality solid waste regulations and is under Administrative Order to be properly designed and built in accordance with federal and local regulations.

■ **Rota Landfill** - \$1,000,000 to modify the design of the existing dumpsite on Rota to comply with the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality's Administrative Order and the Clean Wa-

ter Act, thus eliminating health hazards associated with pollution and waste disposal.

■ **Cost Share Funding for Typhoon Soudelor** - \$816,376 to provide necessary funding for the matching requirement of Federal Emergency Management Administration Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation grant programs related to damages caused by Typhoon Soudelor.

■ **Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Program Administration** - \$669,550 to provide necessary funding for the continuation of the CNMI 702 CIP Program Administration in its 5th year under the Office of the Governor which is responsible for project implementation from inception to completion.

■ **Infrastructure Maintenance** - \$120,074 to the Office of Capital Improvement to fund critical maintenance needs of government infrastructure, enhance facility resistance to potentially severe

weather effects and future disasters, improve useful life of public facilities, and purchase related necessary tools and equipment.

The Secretary of the Interior is responsible for coordinating federal policy with respect to the territories of the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance provided to the freely associated states of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association. On behalf of the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas executes these responsibilities through the Office of Insular Affairs whose mission is to foster economic opportunities, promote government efficiency, and improve the quality of life for the people of the insular areas. (PR)

Interior provides nearly \$6M in CIP funds to Guam

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina yesterday approved \$5.7 million in grant funding for infrastructure improvements to the Guam Memorial Hospital, and several of Guam's public schools, as well as to replace the Guam Police Department's outdated communication system. The assistance is provided through the Office of Insular Affairs' Capital Improvement Project Program.

"Through this critical infrastructure funding we are able to assist the Government of Guam with a wide variety of public health, public safety and education related projects," said Assistant Secretary Kia'aina. "These projects as prioritized by Governor Ed- die Calvo are aligned with our mission to support and improve the quality of life for the people of Guam."

Capital Improvement Proj-

ect (CIP) grants to be awarded this week are as follow:

■ **Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA)** - \$3,500,000 to renovate the hospital's Labor and Delivery Unit and to purchase new furniture, fixtures and equipment in order to upgrade the services provided by GMHA to the people of Guam.

■ **Guam Police Department (GPD)** - \$1,170,000 for the initial phase to replace the current Public Safety Communications System with a "state of the art", redundant, 800MHz, digital, narrowband, encryption cable, trunked radio system. The current system is 24-plus years old and is no longer manufactured. The Public Safety Communications System is the only radio communication system operated by the Government of Guam which is used by the Guam Police Department to dispatch public safety officers, including marine rescue and

SWAT units, and the Guam Fire Department for firefighting, hazmat and emergency rescue services. It is also used by other government agencies that require radio communications, such as Guam International Airport Authority, Guam National Guard, and Guam Homeland Security.

■ **Guam Department of Education (DOE)** - \$1,000,000 for year two of the four-year Insular Area Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms (Insular ABC's) health and safety initiative to address critical deferred maintenance issues throughout Guam's public schools. The Insular ABC's is a partnership between the Office of Insular Affairs and the Army Corps of Engineers which assessed every public school building in Guam, created an analysis of general school conditions, and aggregated a detailed database of deferred maintenance needs and their associated costs. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for reconditioning of the perimeter fence and widening of Charlie Dock service gate at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP, 96950.

All Bids shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Port of Saipan Reconditioning of the Perimeter Fence/Widening of Charlie Service Gate, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 and must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. on FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2016** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read. Bidders are requested to submit one original and two copies of its bid proposal.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to Construction of the **PERIMETER FENCE RECONDITIONING/WIDENING OF CHARLIE SERVICE GATE PROJECT, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15**. The Work involves removing the entire existing chain-link fabric and all accessories and replacing them with new chain-link fabric and accessories. It also includes the removal of the existing Charlie gate and replacing it with a new wider sliding gate all in accordance with the plans and specifications, rules and regulations of all governing agencies. The project is located at the Saipan Seaport, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands.

A CD-Rom containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form, including the Bid Schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

The Project is being financed by funds from Port Security Grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Contract award, if it is made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of Bid Proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold such Bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of Bid opening.

The Contract period for construction of the Project in its entirety shall be **one hundred fifty (150) calendar days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00)** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day completion of the Project is delayed beyond the Contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Seaport Conference Room, George A. Fleming Office Building, Port of Saipan, at **10:00 a.m., Monday, MARCH 28, 2016**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least fourteen (14) days prior to the bid opening.

An intent to bid form and prequalification statements are required fourteen (14) days prior to bid opening date. Details are provided in the legal provisions section of the specifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.


All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government-wide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: April 14, 2016



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ARFF BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
AIP No. 3-69-0003-23/XX

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management (CM) services for various improvements to the ARFF Station at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, AIP No. 3-69-0003-23/XX, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Scope of Work (SOW) includes overall construction management services for the duration of the project. Details are available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for qualification (RFQ) statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant, in writing via hand delivery to the CPA Administration Office, via fax to (670) 664-3533 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.engr@pticom.com by no later than Friday, April 22, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Overall CM experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands – 30 points;
- CM experience related to airport fire stations funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); – 30 points;
- Level of proficiency in performing CM services promptly; and level of experience with the FAA regulations and requirements and AIP grants – 15 points;
- The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of CM work experience, firm's ability to perform the services and the firm's professional integrity and competence – 15 points; and
- Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable – 10 points.

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2016**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified construction management firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.


Send information to:

Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: April 7, 2016



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-006

SR-1 LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT
(S-11-015)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-1 Sewer Lift Station in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general of the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-1 Sewer Lift Station.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of the wet well, remove existing pumps and appurtenances and install new pumps, guide rails, control panel, valves, replacement of pipes and fittings, temporary wastewater bypass system, installation of new fence and gate, and other related work.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 14, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-006, SR-1 Lift Station Rehabilitation Project"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 03, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). ***Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.***


Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email birhen.martinez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-010

TINIAN WATER SYSTEM PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the installation of pressure reducing stations and installation of 10-in PVC Waterline Project in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the installation of approximately 1400 linear feet of 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **240 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **April 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-010, Tinian Water System Pressure Improvements Project"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). ***Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.***


Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 22, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-007

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE
(CUC ROTA)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms for the lease of office space for CUC Administration and Operation in Rota, CNMI.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning regulation.

The RFP package may be obtained at the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section (Saipan, Tinian or Rota), by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$20.00 for one RFP package set. The RFP package will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered Proponents email ID. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division to be considered.

A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for 2:00 PM (ChST) on April 15, 2016 at the CUC Rota Administration Office in Sinapalo Village, Rota.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC RFP -16-007, Lease of Office Space (CUC Rota)"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 10, 2016**.

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponent due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Proponent's preparation of a proposal under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proponents for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the Proponent awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The Proponent awarded a contract shall comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Bordallo expresses concerns on Puerto Rico Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday raised her concerns with H.R. 4900, the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA), during a hearing of the House Committee on Natural Resources on the Puerto Rico fiscal crisis. Congresswoman Bordallo reiterated her position that this bill should include provisions that solve underlying challenges that contributed to Puerto Rico's debt crisis, including removing territorial caps on Medicaid, giving state-like treatment in FMAP reimbursement rates, providing

a cover-over to territories for the Earned Income Tax Credit, and solving challenges to make government retirement systems more sustainable.

Last week, Bordallo, along with her colleagues, Congresswoman Amata Radewagen (R-AS), Congressman Kilili Sablan (D-MP), and Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett (D-VI) wrote to the Committee to underscore their support for solving these underlying issues and urge the committee to include them in PROMESA.

H.R. 4900 establishes an oversight board to work with Puerto Rico's government to reform and manage its govern-

ment's finances. The bill also authorizes a debt restructuring process that will enable Puerto Rico to work with creditors to pay debts. The bill establishes an "opt-in" mechanism that insulates the other territories from the oversight board and debt restructuring provisions as they apply to Puerto Rico by requiring each territory to have their Legislature and Governor affirmatively request that Congress have an oversight board apply to the territory. This provision addresses concerns that were raised by Congresswoman Bordallo and Governor Calvo on the potential impact these

provision might have on Guam's bond ratings.

H.R. 4900 will be marked up by the Natural Resources Committee today.

"I appreciate the Committee's work to try and resolve concerns that I and my fellow delegates have raised regarding the oversight board and debt restructuring being proposed for Puerto Rico. I am encouraged that the Committee has included an "opt-in" provision that requires a vote of a territory's legislature, along with a concurrence of



Bordallo

the Governor before the oversight board provision applies to a territory.

"I am concerned, however, that this bill fails to address the underlying and systemic challenges that led to Puerto Rico's current debt crisis. This crisis will not be resolved through debt restructuring alone, and I urge that Congress address crucial underlying issues, such as equity in Medicaid treatment thru lifting of the caps and increased FMAP, federal treasury cover over for EITC, and fixing government

pensions. I have also proposed giving Guam flexibility in extending Social Security to our government employees so that our government retirement plan does not go down the same road as Puerto Rico's.

"PROMESA will not ultimately resolve Puerto Rico's problems, nor will it provide a more secure financial footing for all the territories. We are doing all we can to be proactive in ensuring that what is happening to Puerto Rico does not happen to the rest of us. I hope we will get a chance at tomorrow's mark-up or on the floor to try and address these critical challenges." (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TINIAN PREPS FOR ARC WALKATHON

The American Red Cross volunteers received their ARC Walkathon banner from Saipan last April 6 at the Tinian Mayor's Office. The Alter City Group donated \$500 to the American Red Cross for their 30th Annual Red Cross Walkathon. Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Alter City Group, and the American Red Cross volunteers hope to see many participants this year. Photo shows, from left, American Red Cross volunteers Vivian Hofschneider and Benida Saimon, Alter City Group Community program manager Maria Castro, MOT chief of Admin Jovita Paulino, THC director Marjorie Daria, Tinian Mayor San Nicolas, ARC board member/CWA board of directors member Connie Villagomez, Alter City Group's HR manager Redie Dela Cruz, Project supervisor Nikkonía Quichocho, and Facility assistants Andrew Hofschneider and Jesse Lizama pose for a group photo.

Bordallo calls for Congressional Art Competition submissions

» Submission deadline today, April 15

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo and the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA) encourage students to participate in the 2016 Congressional Art Competition. The Congressional Art Competition is a nationwide annual high school arts

competition sponsored by the Congressional Institute and Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. 650,000 high school students have participated since the competition began in 1982.

As a reminder, all entries must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday,

April 15, 2015 to Congresswoman Bordallo's District Office, located in the Capitol Plaza Building, 120 Father Duenas Avenue, Suite 107 in Hagåtña. Congresswoman Bordallo invites all high school students to participate in the competition. Each school may submit individual entries of up to 20 students for the local competition. All pieces must be original and not submitted in prior Con-

gressional Art Competitions. All entries must be accompanied by the enclosed Student Information/Release Form with the required signatures.

Additional information and 2015 Art Competition, additional information, forms, and samples of artwork from across the nation can be viewed at the official Congressional Art Competition website: http://www.house.gov/content/educate/art_competition/.

All artwork submitted will be judged by a panel of local artists. Artwork will be displayed in a local show on island and the winner will have his or her artwork displayed for an eleven month exhibit within the Capitol Complex in Washington, D.C. The winning artist will also be awarded a roundtrip ticket to Washington D.C., to attend the official reception for the Congressional Art Competition. (PR)

Coast Guard attends annual D.A.R.E. rally for Molokai elementary schools

HONOLULU—The Coast Guard and several first responders attended an annual D.A.R.E. rally for 5th graders from various Molokai elementary schools at Kaunakakai Ball Park, Molokai, Friday.

"The rally is to encourage the children to make good and smart life decisions and to stay away from drugs," said Officer Sepulona Falealii, a member of the Maui Police Department Molokai division and coordinator

for the D.A.R.E. rally. "We were so happy to have all the agencies come out for this wonderful event for the kids."

The rally was held to educate the children on the dangers of drugs and also in-

cluded demonstrations from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, National Guard, Maui Police Department, Maui County Fire Department, Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources and several other agencies.

In addition, the event coincided with the Centennial of Coast Guard Aviation, which includes public education and outreach designed to recognize Coast Guard aviation's unique contribution to our nation's well-being. (PR)

Bordallo announces change to Navy Solar Project Proposal

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo announced that she was informed by the U.S. Navy that they intend to revise their proposal for the leasing of Navy land to develop a solar project on Guam to meet the "Green Guam" commitment. In particular, due to the hold that she placed on the project as Ranking Member of the Readiness Subcommittee, the Navy has revised its plans and will no longer use the Tumon Tank Farm property for the proposed solar project. It will retain ownership of that property while discussions about specific Navy land use plans continue. Congresswoman Bordallo placed a hold on the project in February due to concerns raised by local property owners and Governor Calvo.

"I appreciate the Navy's revised plans to meet their commitment to a 'Green Guam' approach," said Congresswoman Bordallo. "As Ranking Member of the Readiness Subcommittee I placed a hold on the proposed project due to local concerns over the project. I think the Navy used the extra time to better assess its needs and I concur that they can meet their obligations without this property. I will continue to work with local leaders and the Navy to identify lands to meet the 'Net Negative' commitment—a critical component of the four pillars committed to by the Department of Defense. In my position, I will continue to fight for what is in the best interest of the people of Guam and hold the Department of Defense accountable to their commitments." (PR)

Blas addresses Rotarians on war survivors lawsuit

GUAM—Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. addressed the Rotary Club of Northern Guam during their monthly meeting to discuss the plans to file a lawsuit against the federal government on behalf of Guam's War Survivors.

Blas announced at the meeting that just last week the organization formally incorporated with the Department of Revenue and Taxation. The non-profit organization that will pursue the lawsuit is now officially called "The Guam World War II Reparations Advocates, Inc."

"We're losing members of our island's greatest generation on an almost daily basis," Blas said. "So instead of con-

tinuing to hope that the United States government will one day recognize the pain and suffering they endured during WWII, we have collectively decided to sue the federal government for the reparations that they truly deserve."

The initial directors of the organization are Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr., Senator Tony Ada, Senator James V. Espaldon, former Governor Joseph Ada, former Speaker Joe T. San Agustin, Vice Speaker Benjamin Cruz, Senator Tina Muna Barnes, former Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta, and former U.S. Department of Justice Special Counsel Juan Carlos Benitez.

The attorneys that will rep-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. addresses the Rotary Club of Northern Guam (RCNG) during their monthly meeting. Blas spoke about the creation of the non-profit organization called Guam World War II Reparations Advocates, Inc. and the organization's pending lawsuit against the federal government.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr. and Democratic Party of Guam chair Joaquin Perez discuss their organizations efforts to sue the federal government on behalf of Guam's War Survivors. Blas and Perez are a part of The Guam World War II Reparations Advocates, Inc. and they spoke to the Rotary Club of Northern Guam today regarding their work.

resent the group in the impending suit are Washington, D.C.-based Attorneys Mauricio J. Tamargo, Jason Poblete, and Jeremy G. Ibrahim. The suit will be filed in Washington, D.C. and all court costs, attorney's fees and all other related expenses will be privately funded.

Attorney Tamargo, Vice Speaker Cruz, and the late

Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco were members of the 2003 Guam War Claims Review Commission. During that same time, Tamargo also was the chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States.

For more information please contact the Office of Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr. at 475-2527. (PR)

APTC empowering women through education in Vanuatu

Over 80 students from the Australia-Pacific Technical College graduated at a ceremony held at the APTC Vanuatu Campus in Port Vila on April 13 with qualifications in 12 different programs.

Since its establishment, over 1500 ni-Vanuatu, of which half are women, have graduated from the APTC.

APTC is an innovative development project funded by the Australian Government, delivering

Australian-standard skills and qualifications for a wide range of vocational careers for skilled workers across the Pacific.

Speaking at the ceremony, Australia's High Commissioner to Vanuatu, His Excellency Jeremy Bruer said, "It's great to see all of you, men and women from all walks of life, graduating with internationally recognised Australian trade qualifications".

"I'm very pleased that Australia is supporting the APTC to deliver these courses in the region."

The graduation was attended by government and industry representatives as well as the graduates' friends and family.

The keynote address was delivered by the TVET Vanuatu Program's Team Leader, Fremden Yanhambath.

He said that it was an ex-

citing moment for everyone and graduates are now ready to go back to their work places and make a difference with the new sets of skills and knowledge gained in their studies.

"It is important that you focus on your goals and not be distracted with the past. Work on your circle of influence and influence the people who will help you to make the change you want to see. Most importantly, is to be the change you want to see," he added.

The graduates, who come from all six provinces of Vanuatu, commenced classes in July 2015, soon after Cyclone Pam hit Vanuatu. After the cyclone, the graduates provided support to the sectors they were training in, especially tourism, hospitality, youth work and early childhood education, to help businesses and the people of Vanuatu rebuild their lives.

The APTC Vanuatu campus, which operates from the Vanuatu Institute of Technology (VIT), supported VIT after Cyclone Pam, including through substantial support to the re-establishment of VIT's computer labs.

In addition to its campus in Vanuatu, APTC has campuses in Fiji, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands. (PR)

USCGC *Kukui* returns from 36-day Western, Central Pacific deployment

HONOLULU—The USCGC *Kukui* (WLB 203) crew returned home to Honolulu April 1 after a 36-day patrol of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean to deter illegal fishing of highly migratory fish stocks such as tuna and build relationships with Pacific Island Nations.

"This was an extremely successful deployment," said Lt. j.g. Kristen Holloway, operations officer aboard *Kukui*. "We patrolled more than 8,462 miles and conducted 13 at-sea boardings resulting in the issuance of eight safety violations and one marine pollution violation."

The Western and Central Pacific Ocean is home to the "tuna belt" and supplies about 60 percent of the global tuna supply, which is worth an estimated \$7 billion a year. With more than 5,600 fishing vessels registered with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, there are serious concerns about the sustainability of straddling fish stocks. Illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing presents a significant threat to the

multi-national fishing fleets that operate in the region. During each fisheries patrol, the U.S. Coast Guard is protecting the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone from foreign fishing vessel encroachment, enforcing domestic living marine resources laws, and ensuring compliance with international agreements.

One of these international arrangements is the Western and Central Fisheries Commission. The WCPFC is a convention comprised of 40 member nations, territories, and cooperating non-members that regulates fishing for highly migratory species on the high seas of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. Within these partnerships, the Coast Guard's 14th District works closely to ensure all domestic and foreign fishing fleets are complying with this international agreement. The *Kukui* is one of the vessels that is authorized to carry out boardings and inspections of foreign fishing vessels on the high seas under the WCPFC convention area.

The Coast Guard executes

bilateral agreements with nine Pacific Island countries. These agreements, commonly known as shiprider agreements, allow enforcement authorities from host nations to embark a Coast Guard or U.S. Navy platform to enforce the host nations' fisheries laws inside their EEZ. This allows for capacity building, training, joint operations and the safeguarding of highly migratory fish stocks in the Pacific. *Kukui*'s crew embarked a Samoan shiprider for a portion of this deployment. The U.S. Marine Corps also provided an interpreter who spoke Cantonese to facilitate more effective Communication with the fishing vessel crews.

"One of the biggest reasons we conduct this type of mission is to support the long term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks through enforcement of international agreements," said Lt. Cmdr. Brendan Harris, commanding officer of the *Kukui*. "Fisheries is a huge economic driver for many Pacific Island countries. By enforcing the regula-

tions that preserve and protect our shared marine resources, we foster economic prosperity today and ensure thriving oceans for future generations."

Fish stocks are a renewable resource if managed correctly and not overfished. More importantly, fish stocks are a global food source and provide economic stability for many countries. In the U.S. alone, the fishing industry employs 1.3 million people and contributes \$199 billion per year to the U.S. economy, according to NOAA's 2012 Economic Report. Many Pacific Island Nations rely on the fishing industry for revenue and sustenance. Depleted fish stocks could contribute to the destabilization of the region and leave small nations vulnerable to dangerous transnational organized crime networks.

The *Kukui*'s crew also sought out volunteer opportunities while deployed. They conducted small boat navigation and seamanship training with local marine patrol officers in Pago Pago, American Samoa, and cleaned up a local hospital in Vava'u, Tonga. (PR)

Message of Appreciation

†*Rosario
Sablan
Palacios*

“Charing”



*Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece,
If so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all
Just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much whatever the part.*

The Family of Rosario Sablan Palacios



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dial Rent-to-Own general manager Alex Villazon (second from right) presents a \$5,000 check to the NMC Foundation represented by May Ayuyu, Mary Tenorio, and James Glenn. For more information about the NMC Foundation Golf tournament, including registering or donating, visit www.marianas.edu.

Dial Rent-to-Own donates \$5K to NMC Foundation

As part of its mission to support higher education in the CNMI, Dial Rent-to-Own recently donated \$5,000 to the Northern Marianas College Foundation. The donation was made in support of the upcoming 13th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament scheduled for Saturday, April 30, 2016, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

“We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to Dial Rent-to-Own for donating to the upcoming NMC Foundation Golf Tournament, especially as

NMC celebrates 35 years of providing higher education in the CNMI. We are very thankful that they believe in the importance of supporting the college through our annual golf open event,” said NMC Foundation president Mable Ayuyu.

The NMC Foundation is composed of community volunteers committed to the advancement of opportunities in support of higher education for students in the CNMI. The golf tournament is the NMC Foundation’s signature event that raises funds to support

NMC’s academic programs and services.

The tournament will be held at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort (west course) and will have separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies.

The entrance fee is \$100 per player. Payments for the entrance fee can be made at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, and the NMC Cashier.

For more information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.marianas.edu or call 237-6780. **(PR)**

Please join us as we continue to thank God for His loving graces and pray for the eternal rest of our beloved

†*Paulina
Adelbai Faustino*

(November 11, 1942-April 25, 2015)

during the traditional 9-day settings. Daily mass intentions for the first anniversary of her passing on to eternal life will be offered on Sunday, April 17, 2016, to Monday, April 25, 2016 at San Antonio Church in San Antonio, Saipan.

8:00 a.m.	Sunday	April 17, 2016
6:00 p.m.	Monday	April 18, 2016
6:00 p.m.	Tuesday	April 19, 2016
6:00 p.m.	Wednesday	April 20, 2016
6:00 p.m.	Thursday	April 21, 2016
6:00 p.m.	Friday	April 22, 2016
6:00 p.m.	Saturday	April 23, 2016
8:00 a.m.	Sunday	April 24, 2016
6:00 p.m.	Monday	April 25, 2016

Mesulang, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and thank you for your loving presence and prayers.

The Family

In Celebration of His New Life

†**JESUS HOCO**

BORN: July 26, 1947 – DIED: April 8, 2016

IN HIS NEW LIFE, HE JOINS HIS:

Father: †Joaquin Borja
Mother: †Rosa Ogo Hocog

Brothers/Sister and Spouses:

†Misael Ogo & †Angelica M. Ogo
†Maria H. Borja
†Candido H. & †Remedil T. Borja

Parents-In-Law: †Marcial K. & †Rufina Clemen Aguelo
Sister-In-Law: †Cleofe Aguelo

HIS MEMORIES WILL LIVE IN THE HEARTS OF HIS:

Wife : Genoveva “Cora” A. Hocog
Son : Loremel A. Hocog
Step-Mother : Timotea B. Borja

Brother/Sister-In-Law:

Ignacio H. & Rose Borja and children/ Joaquin B. Borja, Jr.

Sister: Andresina Borja and children

Brothers-In-Laws/Sisters-In-Laws: Napoleon & Christina Aguelo and children/ Nestor & Maritess Aguelo and children/ Aguelberto & Bernardita Aguelo and children/Remedios & Matias Ordeniza and Children/Teresita and Timoteo Abrasaldo

HE WILL BE MISSED BY NUMEROUS NEPHEWS, NIECES, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

Daily Mass of intentions are being offered at 6:00 p.m. at Santa Soledad Church. On April 10, 2016 (Sunday), Mass will be offered at 6:00 a.m. and on April 11 to the 15, 2016, Mass will be at 6:00 p.m.

On April 16, 2016, his remains will be escorted from the Nuestra Senora De La Paz Memorial Chapel to Santa Soledad Church at 7:30 a.m. followed by Responso and Rosary.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment Services will follow at the Resurrection Circle, Santuario PAX Memorial Gardens in Kagman, where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,

Cora and Loremel A. Hocog and Family

In Loving Memory of

† Zenaida Mae Castro Javier

Lovingly known as Zhen

May 07, 1976 – April 11, 2016

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her...

Children: Andrea Hope J. Roberto
Nathaniel Ray J. Roberto

Her brothers, sisters and their children:

†Tina C. Blanco (Ricardo Jr., Clarissa & Andrew)
Norbert Castro and Family
Christina Castro and Family
Rosaline C. Macabalo and Family
Reynaldo C. Javier and Family
Joseph C. Javier and Family
Jeffrey C. Javier and Family
Roberto Javier and Family
†Norberto S. Javier, Jr. and Family
Antonio Javier and Family
Maria Teresa J. Tobias and Family
Vicente Javier and Family
Noel Javier and Family
Maria Angeles J. Trinidad-Webare and Family

*In her New Life, she will be met
at the gate of heaven by her:*

Father: †Norberto Santos Javier, Sr.
Mother: †Ana Castro Javier
Sister: †Tina Marie Castro Blanco
Brother: †Norbert S. Javier, Jr.

*She is additionally survived by numerous
uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews and nieces.*

Daily Mass of Intentions are being offered every
day at Mount Carmel Cathedral at 6:00 a.m.
and Holy Rosary at 7:30 p.m.

Viewing and last respects will be at Mount Carmel
Cathedral on April 20, 2016 beginning 8:00 a.m.
Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated
at 11:00 a.m. to be followed by the Interment
Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where
she will be laid at her final resting place.

*Your thoughts and prayers
are greatly appreciated.*

Thank You - Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

*"In all our losses, all our gains,
In all our pleasures, all our pains
The life of life is: love remains
In every change from good to ill,
If love continues still,
Let happen then what will."*

— Theodore Tilton

Science & Technology

Obama touts robots, US ingenuity at White House Science Fair

WASHINGTON (AP)—They came with eco-glue and Lego launchers. Their tag board displays were filled with charts, graphs and research on pollution. There were no little kids with plaster volcanoes in this crowd. But there was a trash-eating robot.

This was the White House Science Fair, an annual opportunity to show off the nation's budding inventors, engineers, astronauts and researchers—and to impress the nation's science fan-in-chief.

"You remind us that together through science we can tackle some of the biggest challenges we face," President Barack Obama told the more than 130 students gathered at the White House on Wednesday. "You are sharing in this essential spirit of discovery that America is built on."

The fair is a favorite within the White House, in part because of the president's clear delight in the often impressive displays of young brains and creativity. As he has since he began the fair in 2010, Obama toured the sampling of exhibits, asking questions, pressing start buttons, smiling with approval and, at times, ribbing the earnest presenters.

"My only concern is that, you know, you may have trouble getting into col-



AP

President Barack Obama laughs as he hugs Rebecca Yeung, 11, from Seattle, Wash., next to her sister Kimberly Yeung, 9, as they show him their homemade "spacecraft" that features a photograph of their late cat and is made of archery arrows and wood scraps which they launched into the stratosphere via a helium balloon that records location coordinates, temperature, velocity, and pressure and reports the data back to them, Wednesday, April 13, 2016, during the 2016 White House Science Fair at the White House in Washington.

lege," Obama joked with 18-year-old Sanjana Rane from Prospect, KY, after listening to her detailed explanation of how she helped figure out a particular protein could be used to detect and treat renal fibrosis.

Olivia Hallisey, 17, of Greenwich, Connecticut, created a diagnostic test for the detection of the Ebola virus. Augusta Uwamanzu-Nna, 17, of Elmont, New York, found a way to improve undersea cement seals to keep offshore oil wells from leaking. And Hannah Herbst, 15, of Boca Raton, Florida, created a device to tap energy from

ocean currents.

As he toured the exhibits, Obama admired the sticky "GIOO" (patent pending) a St. Louis Girl Scout Troop made out from Styrofoam, and a group of New York City teens' robot vacuum designed to pick up trash on the subway. He marveled at the "Loki Lego Launcher," a homemade spacecraft that shot up 78,000 feet in the air before it landed in a field next to a cow pie, according to its inventors, sisters Kimberly and Rebecca Yeung, 9 and 11.

"But cow poop didn't get on this?" the president said as he looked at the launcher. "You're sure?"

Amazon's latest Kindle mostly wants to disappear

NEW YORK (AP)—Will loyal fans of e-books be willing to pay tablet prices for dedicated e-readers? Amazon is about to find out.

The e-commerce giant's latest Kindle is its smallest and lightest yet. But it's also the most expensive, at \$290—almost a hundred bucks more than the current champ, the \$200 Kindle Voyage. Now the company is betting that its sleek frame and a cover that doubles as a rechargeable battery will attract dedicated e-book users to its eighth generation device, called the Kindle Oasis.

Amazon says the new Kindle is 30 percent thinner and 20 percent lighter than previous Kindles. It's also asymmetrical, with a grip on one side for one-handed reading. (Lefties can just flip the device over.)

The company's goal? "To make the device disappear," said Neal Lindsay, vice

president of Amazon Devices, so that people can read without distraction.

The e-reader landscape has experienced a few plot twists since Amazon introduced the first Kindle in 2007. Sales surged for a few years, but started leveling off around 2012 as e-readers grew more commonplace. They even dipped slightly in 2013 but then rose 3.8 percent to \$3.37 billion dollars in 2014, according to the most recent stats available from the Association of American Publishers.

Although the market has matured, it's still a growing category for Amazon year-over-year, the company says. (It doesn't, though, release sales figures.) Meanwhile, Amazon has launched several other devices, including its Kindle Fire tablets, Fire TV streaming stick and set top box, and the Echo smart speaker.

But dedicated e-readers

help drive e-book sales at Amazon, which publishes many itself via Kindle Direct Publishing. They can also serve as a gateway drug that helps draw people to other goods and deals on Amazon, including its Prime membership program.

"If you pick up a Kindle and read a book, eventually that may translate into watching Prime instant videos, joining Prime, or buying a physical book," said R.W. Baird analyst Colin Sebastian.

Like previous Kindles, the Oasis features a black-and-white screen designed to make reading easier. It features two batteries—one in the e-reader and another in its cover—which together stretch the battery life to 9 weeks of "regular" reading (30 minutes a day by Amazon's definition) or months on standby. The Oasis and its cover charge simultaneously via one port.

Off The Wall

Woman lost in forest for 9 days credits survival course

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—Ann Rodgers ate plants and a turtle and made a "help" sign large enough that a helicopter was able to find her after nine days in the Arizona wilderness.

The 72-year-old Tucson woman, who was found in the White Mountains in eastern Arizona, says studying survival methods and taking a survival course saved her life.

"We kept trekking as long as I could go each day but as soon as that sun started to drop below those high walls, I had to stop, get my campsite ready, make my campfire, bring in my wood to keep it going all night," she said during a news conference Wednesday.

But an expert says she broke the most important rule for being found: Stay with your car. Rodgers' car was found days before her rescue, while she walked through the forest. She also hadn't told her family she was headed to visit them and was never reported missing.

Cody Lundin, a survival instructor in Arizona who co-hosted Discovery Channel's "Dual Survival" series, says one of the first rules those

courses teach is to never leave a car because it's more visible than a person. Another is to let people know where you're headed and when.

"Clearly she did whatever she had to do to stay alive. But she didn't need to do what she did. This ordeal didn't need to last for nine days," Lundin said.

Rodgers went missing on March 31 on her way to visit her grandchildren in Phoenix, which is a straight shot from Tucson on Interstate 10. She struggled to explain how she became lost but said she took two wrong turns and ended up on a dirt road in eastern Arizona.

Her hybrid car ran out of gas and electric power and she didn't have a signal for her cellphone.

Rodgers spent the first night in her car with her cat and dog, wearing three layers of clothing to keep warm and eating snacks and drinking water she had packed.

On the second day, Rodgers and her dog walked down a road in search of a ranch that she said she had passed

on her way in.

Rodgers kept looking for a sign of people, surviving off plants and pond water. She says she knew which plants were edible because she's lived in and studied the desert for a long time.

White Mountain Apache Forest rangers spotted her car on April 3 and ran a check on the license plate. They called the Gila County Sheriff's Office, which began the search.

Sheriff's Detective Johnny Holmes said Rodgers was difficult to track. He said the sheriff's office used a K-9 unit and obtained her cellphone information to no avail.

"We couldn't find anything of where this lady was," he said.

On April 4, her birthday, Rodgers was near a creek when she spotted a turtle. She grabbed it, cooked it over a fire, removed the shell and ate it.

Rodgers recalled feeling angry as the days passed and there was no sign of help.

"I was frustrated, but I knew there were people who cared enough to make sure somebody found me sometime out there," Rodgers said.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Coyote found shot in head, starving delivers healthy pups

SOLVANG, Calif. (AP)—First, rescuers realized the emaciated coyote they pulled from the bottom of an empty reservoir in Southern California was blind from being shot between the eyes. Then, X-rays showed the near-death animal was pregnant. After a monthlong regimen of care, including intravenous fluids and vitamins, the coyote gave birth at an animal hospital to a litter of five healthy puppies. Julia Di Sieno of the Animal Rescue Team in Solvang found the coyote in the reservoir after a call came into her hotline Feb. 11. The coyote was bleeding and having trouble breathing. Di Sieno climbed down 30 feet into the stone-and-mortar reservoir and loaded the wounded animal onto a gurney. She named it Angel. Examinations revealed Angel had been shot between the eyes, and the bullet blinded her. The coyote then likely wandered the Santa Ynez Valley north of Santa Barbara for days or weeks until she tumbled into the reservoir, Di Sieno said.

Can't hold up this lip-lock: Couple kisses through robbery

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP)—Nothing can stop true love, or at least a good kiss. Not

even armed robbers. Police in Montana's largest city are looking for three suspects who robbed a bar at gunpoint, but they didn't seem to disturb a couple who kissed through the commotion. An employee of the Tap Inn and several patrons told police in Billings that two men and a woman wearing bandannas and gloves stormed the bar and casino early Monday and demanded money. Surveillance video from the business shows the bartender quickly opening the cash register and putting his hands in the air, as did other bar patrons, while the amorous couple kept hugging and kissing. The robbers left with an undisclosed amount of cash, and the bartender called 911. No one was hurt.

Swim team members hire stripper as a joke; school unamused

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—A Des Moines school district spokesman has confirmed that ninth-grade girls hired a male stripper to perform at their school's synchronized swimming club's annual banquet. District spokesman Phil Roeder (RAY'-dur) told The Des Moines Register on Wednesday that the Roosevelt High School principal will decide whether the girls violated school policies and punishment is merited. A father of

one of the team members says the girls employed the stripper as a joke, and that the stripper didn't totally disrobe at Friday evening's event at the Des Moines Social Club. Roeder says a club employee asked the stripper to leave, deeming the appearance inappropriate for the students. The Sharks synchronized swimming club is run and funded by students in grades nine through 12.

Rescued calf is now companion for blind cow who lost pig pal

DARTMOUTH, Mass. (AP)—A calf that spent several days on the loose in Massachusetts is now a companion for a blind cow that recently lost a pig playmate. The cow, Baby, lives at the Don't Forget Us Pet Us animal sanctuary in Dartmouth. The unnamed calf had escaped from Robinson's Livestock and was returned to the farm last week. It had been destined for the slaughterhouse. But Jean Briggs saw stories about its escape, used her tax refund to buy the calf from Robinson's for \$450 and turned it over to the sanctuary. Deborah Devlin, who runs the sanctuary, says the timing is perfect. She says Baby's friend for the last eight years, Lulu the pig, died Sunday and that the cow was heartbroken. The cow and the calf were introduced Tuesday.

Life & Style

Ruling clears way for Katy Perry to buy hilltop convent

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge on Wednesday voided the sale of a former Catholic convent to a Los Angeles businesswoman, clearing the way for Katy Perry to purchase the hilltop property.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Stephanie Bowick ruled that attempts to sell the property to the businesswoman by members of an order of elderly nuns were improper.

Perry has sought to buy the hilltop property in the Los Feliz neighborhood for \$14.5 million and to relocate an adjoining house of prayer used by priests. Her bid has the approval of Los Angeles' archbishop but would have to be approved by the Vatican.

The Roman villa-style con-



This June 29, 2015 file photo shows the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary property in the Los Feliz area of Los Angeles.

vent sits on 8 acres.

The "Roar" singer's efforts to buy the aging hilltop home were stymied when some members of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

opted to sell the convent to entrepreneur Dana Hollister.

Hollister recorded a deed on the property, but Bowick's ruling rescinds it. She had plans to turn it into a boutique hotel,

which drew concerns from some neighbors.

Her attorney Randy Snyder didn't immediately return messages seeking comment.

The archdiocese wrote it in

a statement that it was gratified by the ruling and promised it would take care of the nuns.

"The archdiocese will continue to provide pastoral outreach and care to the sisters," the statement read. "We will take any necessary steps to continue to protect the sisters and ensure that any transaction on the sale of the property will provide them with immediate funding for their care."

Bowick ruled that Los Angeles' archbishop has to first authorize any sale, and the nuns did not receive his permission before entering into an agreement with Hollister.

Hollister was in the process of renovating the convent when she was sued by the archdiocese last year, sparking months of litigation and high-

lighting conflict between the nuns and the archdiocese.

In May 2014, at the archbishop's request, the nuns met with Perry to see if a compromise could be worked out. At least two of the five surviving nuns—who had already searched for Perry's music videos and weren't pleased with what they saw—weren't swayed by the meeting.

The Sisters of the Most Holy and Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary have owned the property for more than 40 years, but they haven't lived in the convent for several years. Only five sisters, who are in their 70s and 80s, remain, and their order has bickered with the archbishop for years on various issues.

Cumberbatch to voice Grinch; 'Bourne' gets a new mission

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The Grinch has a new voice: Benedict Cumberbatch. Universal Pictures announced the collaboration Wednesday night at CinemaCon, an annual gathering of theater owners in Las Vegas.

Universal's Illumination Entertainment founder and CEO Chris Meledandri also

said "South Park" co-creator and star Trey Parker would be voicing the villain role in "Despicable Me 3."

In addition, the studio previewed the latest action-packed installment in the Bourne series, "Jason Bourne," which sees the return of star Matt Damon in the title role. Tommy Lee Jones and

recent Oscar-winner Alicia Vikander also star in the Paul Greengrass-directed film, inspired by WikiLeaks and Edward Snowden.

Kevin Hart promoted his concert film "What Now?" and audiences got a look at the big-screen adaptation of best-selling novel "The Girl on the Train," starring Emily Blunt.

The Black Keys: Steve Miller 'really disappointed us'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Black Keys' frontman Dan Auerbach says he lost sleep after inducting an openly ungrateful Steve Miller into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame last week, telling Rolling Stone magazine Wednesday he "hated the feeling in my gut of being connected to that negativity."

Miller blasted the rock hall and the music industry during the April 8 induction ceremony and in press interviews afterward.

Auerbach told Rolling Stone he and bandmate Pat Carney were personally disappointed in Miller and regret participating in the ceremony.

A spokeswoman for the band confirmed the comments.

"There's a time and place to stand up and be angry," Auerbach told the magazine. "But when people are honoring you for how great you are, that's not the (expletive) time or place... And I hated being a part of that."

Former 'Apprentice' contestants planning to denounce Trump

PITTSBURGH (AP)—A handful of former contestants from Donald Trump's reality show "The Apprentice" say the Republican front-runner should not be president.

Half a dozen past hopefuls of the hit show, including Season 4 winner Randal Pinkett and Season 1 runner-up Kwame Jackson, are planning a press conference Friday in New York to denounce the GOP front-runner's bid ahead of the state's April 19 primary.

In statements, the contestants slammed Trump's rhetoric as divisive and accused him of running a "campaign of sexism, xenophobia, racism, violence and hate."

"Trump is passionately and



A group of protesters march through downtown Pittsburgh to the David Lawrence Convention Center to protest a visit by Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump in Pittsburgh, Wednesday, April 13, 2016.

strategically reigniting a dirty and divisive culture soaked in a history of prejudice, fear and hate. It is unpatriotic, anti-

American, self-serving, regressive and downright lazy," said Marshawn Evans Daniels in a statement.

Refuge after parents' divorce turns into a prison for teen

DEAR ABBY: I'm 17 and have been in a relationship since I was 13 with the same person on and off. I have been with him since my parents divorced, so you might say he's been my crutch for a long time.

He makes it clear that without him I am an emotional mess. I spend every day isolated from friends and family, while he spends his time with his friends. (I'm not allowed to be with them.) If I'm out with a friend, it is a huge issue.

I love him and I don't want to break up, but it feels like I'm alone even when I'm with him. I'm sick of letting a man make me feel like he's my reason for being alive. I want better. I deserve better. I am so confused. Please help me.

DESERVES BETTER IN NEW YORK

DEAR DESERVES BETTER: I am crossing my fingers and hoping that you are still living with one of your parents. If you have been living with this person, I cannot stress strongly enough how important it is for you to make other arrangements.

You acknowledge that he has been your "crutch." Well, unless someone is severely disabled—which you are not—crutches are meant to be temporary. Among the warning signs of an abuser is being controlling and preventing his victim from forming healthy relationships with other peo-

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



ple. Another red flag is if the person chips away at his victim's self-esteem by saying she/he "can't survive without him."

That you want something better for yourself and know you deserve better is a sign that you still have some healthy self-esteem. So please act on it. End this relationship and don't look back.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a postal worker. With wedding and graduation seasons fast approaching, please pass along some suggestions to your readers:

Before addressing envelopes, please make sure your address books are up to date. We do everything in our power to

make sure all mail gets to where it is supposed to be, but you'd be shocked how often it's addressed to someone who moved many years ago—or worse, is deceased.

Be sure to include the recipient's last name and try not to use nicknames. If the address is off by a little bit, a last name on the envelope is sometimes helpful. You might think everyone knows Uncle Bob as "Moose." But as carriers, unless we know the recipient personally, we only know his or her proper name.

And don't forget to include your return address on the envelope so if it can't be delivered, you'll know the recipient didn't receive it. That way, you won't think that "Aunt Ann" didn't want to attend or have her think she wasn't invited.

And last but not least, be sure to have proper postage on the envelope! Often, due to the size or thickness of an invitation, extra postage is needed. I hope this will help your readers.

MICHIGAN MAIL CARRIER

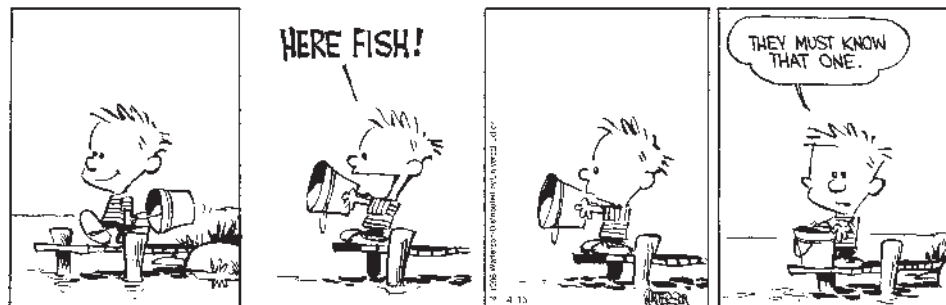
DEAR MAIL CARRIER: So do I!

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



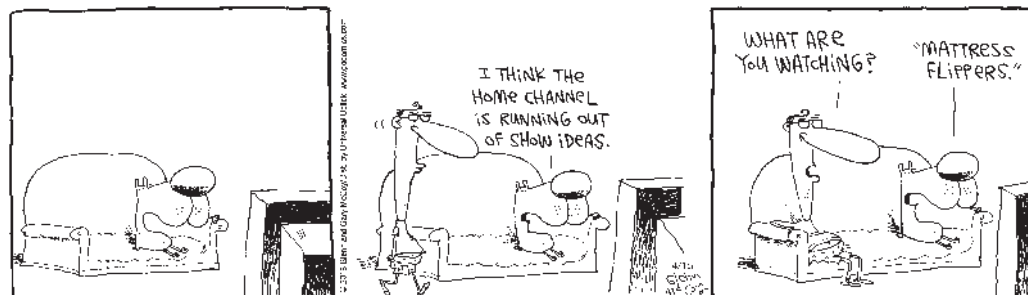
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Tokyo setting
6 Tin Man's need
9 Ad- (impro-ise)
12 Emergency signal
13 Gun lobby org.
14 Post-op area
15 Quirks
16 Enthusiast
18 Houston team
20 Calendar row
21 Sinbad's bird
23 HBO rival
24 Tie the knot
25 Vicinity
27 Different
29 Babbled
31 Address to a bloke
35 Piles
37 Rescue
38 Bo of "10"

DOWN

1 NYC airport
2 "The Greatest"
3 Cure-all
4 Clumsy fleet
5 Egg holders
6 Walking wisdom
7 Savings choices
8 PC linking system
9 Metric measure
10 Less friendly
11 Baseball's Dent
17 Prizes
19 Valerie Harper sitcom
21 Knock Bobby
22 Hockey's Bobby
24 Actor Gibson
26 Goddess of wisdom
28 Swindled, slangily
30 "A spider!"
32 Crazy
33 Lab eggs
34 Longing
36 "Friends" role
38 Igloo shapes
39 Poet's muse
40 Singer-songwriter
42 Newman
45 Equipment
46 Aloe —
48 Stick with a kick
50 Fre- quently
51 Hwy.

Solution time: 26 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-15

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Emma Watson, 26; Seth Rogen, 34; Emma Thompson, 57; Roy Clark, 83.

Happy Birthday: Plan to have some fun. Step outside your comfort zone and try new things. Make a point to enjoy life instead of watching it pass you by. Sign up for new adventures and explore new ways to use your skills. Express your feelings with passion. This is a year to make progress, so take the initiative and make your dreams come true. Your numbers are 9, 13, 23, 25, 32, 37, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't wait for things to happen or come to you. Launch your ideas and plans without hesitation. If you don't make an effort, you will regret it. Take the plunge and celebrate your initiative with someone you love. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make plans. A day trip or program that encourages improvement or self-awareness will result in a feeling of satisfaction. Don't give in to emotional melodrama. Instead, opt to do something that contributes to your personal growth. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't give in to temptation. Clear up clutter and organize an event that will bring in extra cash. Put unwanted items up for sale. You will meet someone interesting if you engage in conversations that are geared toward sharing memories and dreams. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Believe in your ideas and don't let anyone discourage you from pursuing your

dreams. Make changes at home that will help you feel more comfortable and secure. A partnership discussion will help you make a long-term decision. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Look for a unique solution. Take something that has worked in the past and give it new life by incorporating current trends. Don't neglect your love life. Include someone you love in your plans and sparks will fly. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't fold under pressure. Take a position of leadership and make your voice count. Aim to stabilize a situation with practical and affordable suggestions, and you will impress someone who can help you get what you want. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll fluctuate when it comes to emotional matters. Do what your heart tells you, not what someone else wants you to do. Giving in will lead to regret, so don't lose sight of your dream. Passion is highlighted. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Share your plans with someone you love and be willing to make some compromises if it will enable you to follow through with your plans. Listen to suggestions and you will bypass an obstacle that you didn't anticipate. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Not everyone will be open and honest with you. Steer clear of those who practice bad habits, and opt instead to spend time with the people who you know are supportive and eager to help. Romance will improve your life. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Pay attention to domestic matters and don't let outside influences ruin your plans. A property deal or investment looks promising. Build up equity and pay down debts. Don't be tempted by a fast-talking sales agent. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep an open mind and you will have far more fun when dealing with friends and family. Reconnecting with an old friend or exercise buddy will lift your spirits and get you back into a healthy routine. Romance is highlighted. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Someone will take advantage of your generosity. Be careful when dealing with people who want something for nothing. Put your time and effort into personal gain, not helping someone else get ahead. A partnership will offer an unusual resource. ★★★

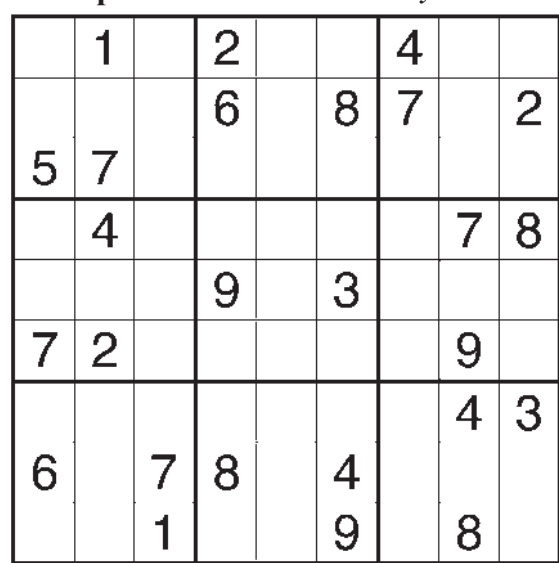
Birthday Baby: You are progressive, daring and emotional. You are dedicated and enthusiastic.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com. Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



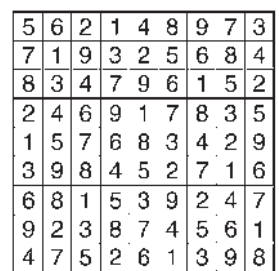
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/15

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TYPES OF BASEBALL PITCHES

Solution: 9 letters

L L A B T I P S I D E A R M L
O R E T T I H I S H A N D O T
N R E T T U C X C N I A R T F
G E V R U L S T F A S T U B E
R E T T A B E S L A N G I S L
Y V O S T R I K E O U T M S L
R O T A T I O N C O D E L P A
O L B S R E K N I S X I R E B
T G R S R S L A R T D E N E K
C N E W E E E C E E L I D R
E A A O L T H N R E O N P S O
J C K B G A D C A I H H S O F
A L I L N L E S T L C A L L S
R U N E A P E L L A B O R Y G
T V G P U E G N A H C U R V E

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Angle, Arsenal, Batter, Breaking, Calls, Catcher, Change-up, Circle, Code, Control, Curve, Cutter, Elbows, Extend, Fast, Forkball, Fosh, Glove, Gyroball, Hand, Hitter, Hold, Left, Long, Plate, Release, Rotation, Shuuto, Sidearm, Signals, Sinkers, Six, Slider, Slurve, Speeds, Spin, Spitball, Stretch, Strikeout, Train, Trajectory, Vulcan

Yesterday's Answer: Gardens

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Pastor: \$1,200-\$1,500/mo. 3 years experience and Korean language speaking fluency required. Email resume to goodnews@hanmisaipan.com.

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American Couples and Non-American Couples are seeking your help to fulfill their dream to have a child. If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please contact Evelyn @ 322-0419. Compensation is over \$22,000. or receive \$500 for referral of qualified candidates.

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(1) COMMERCIAL CLEANER
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- With 4 to 5 years experience

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P.O. Box 504249 CK
Tel: 285-5354

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• 1-2 years exp. as maid & housekeeping cleaner
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Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

DbA: Hilltop Farm
(3) Farmer

DbA: Marckreenz Food Catering
(2) Cook

Minimum of 2 years experience required
Eligible U.S. workers.

Please send resume to:
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Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

POI AVIATION

Invites qualified US worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

Airport Service Agent (5)
High School Diploma or GED equivalent; entry-level computer skills and strong oral and written communication skills in English and preferably in Chinese and Korean languages. Be at least 18 years of age and able to travel to work locations as needed. Previous customer service experience preferred. Must be able to lift bags or items weighing up to 70 pounds. Must be able to work a fixed and/or rotating schedule including evenings, early mornings, weekends and holidays. Candidates must pass a post offer pre-employment drug test and an extensive pre-employment background check, including finger printing and criminal history record check required by Federal law.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than April 25, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

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Saipan Tribune, Inc. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the follow positions:

Advertising Sales Agent
Associates degree in Business Administration or any related course. Minimum of 3 years solid experience in advertising and sales is required. Must have the ability to compose clear business correspondence and prepare and meet monthly sales targets. A background in printing or newspaper business is an advantage. Proficient in MS Word, Excel and Power Point and must work flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, April 29, 2016.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and persons with disability are encouraged to apply.

Hanson Micronesia Cement, Inc. - Saipan

Terminal Manager

Responsibilities:

• Supervise daily operations of a cement distribution terminal

• Communicate effectively with our customers

• Safely operate equipment to discharge cement from vessels and load customer trucks

• Do periodic maintenance/trouble shoot all terminal equipment

• Prepare all paperwork to accompany loads and keep daily and monthly inventory records

• Ensure all employee are trained and follow safe work practices and procedures; consistent with company policies and OSHA standards

Requirements:

• Minimum of 2-4 years' experience in cement or related industry preferred

• Excellent communication skills (oral and written)

• Good organizational skills

• Prepared to work flexible hours, including some weekends, nights, and holidays

• Clerical skills a plus

• College degree preferred (or equivalent by experience)

Please submit resume by email to derek.sadler@hanson.biz.

Pacific Basin Insurance Company

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Insurance Sales Agent (5)

Job Description & Qualifications:

■ Must be able to generate new business by contacting potential customers and selling one or more types of insurance. Knowledgeable in various insurance policies.

■ High school graduate or equivalent; Bachelor's Degree is a plus

■ Knowledge in various insurance policies and strong marketing skills.

■ 3 years experience in insurance sales and underwriting (personal and commercial lines)

■ Other duties as assigned

Assistant Underwriter (1)

Job Description and Qualifications

■ Provide support to underwriters on new and renewal business risk assessments

■ Analyze applications and screen applicants based on certain criteria.

■ Knowledge about working with different types of insurance

■ Knowledge on computer software programs such as Quickbooks and Peachtree

■ Good communication and technical skills

■ Must be able to speak and write in English

■ 4 years experience in Personal and Commercial Lines Insurance Underwriting

■ Other duties as assigned

Please send your resume at mailing address:

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P.O. Box 500710
Saipan, MP 96950

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AK Used Car Sales Associate (1 opening)

Interested in a job opportunity with growth and longevity? Then AK Toyota WANTS YOU! Here's your chance to put to use your polished skills and make some real money selling vehicles on Saipan. Take pride in working for the #1 automotive dealership in customer satisfaction. We want a committed Sales Associate to convey our high standards.

Qualifications:

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• Ability to set and achieve targeted goals

• Genuine desire to serve

• Passion to change a one- time customer into a "Customer for Life"

• Demonstrated communication and interpersonal skills

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• Must be computer literate, experience in auto dealership software preferred

• Must be detail oriented, have excellent paperwork skills and well organized

• Valid Saipan driver's license

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Benefits: Medical and Dental Insurance Plan, 401k Retirement Plan, Long Term Disability and Life Insurance.

If you meet these qualifications submit your resume to hr@akguam.net or apply in person at Atkins Kroll (Saipan) Inc. Finance & Admin. Office
No phone calls please!

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WHATZIT Solution: Where there's a will, there's a way

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

William Shakespeare WHEY

Prince William WEIGH

William the Conqueror WAY

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www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Kobe scores 60 points in unbelievable farewell victory

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kobe Bryant went out with a Hollywood ending to his remarkable career.

He scored 60 points in his final NBA game Wednesday night, wrapping up 20 years in the NBA with an unbelievable offensive showcase in the Los Angeles Lakers' 101-96 victory over the Utah Jazz.

Bryant scored 23 points in the fourth quarter, posting his first 50-point game since February 2009 and rallying the Lakers from a 15-point deficit to win the final game of the worst season in franchise history.

With the entire Staples Center crowd standing, Bryant drained a 3-pointer with 59 seconds left. He hit another

with 31 seconds to play, putting the Lakers ahead 97-96. He finished with an assist before checking out for good with 4.1 seconds left in just the Lakers' 17th win of the worst season in franchise history.

Bryant took a career-high 50 shots to get there. He posted his highest-scoring performance since getting 61 against New York in 2009. It was the fifth highest-scoring game of his career, and he became the oldest player to score 50 points in an NBA game.

The entire night was a tribute to Bryant, who is retiring after 20 seasons, five championship rings and 18 All-Star



Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant pounds his chest after the last NBA basketball game of his career, against the Utah Jazz, Wednesday, April 13, 2016, in Los Angeles.

selections with the Lakers, after the game. Bryant is just the fifth player in NBA histo-

ry to play 20 seasons, and the first with just one team.

Between the whistles, Bryant and his teammates conspired for one last omnivorous scoring performance by the third-leading scorer in NBA history.

Bryant surpassed his previous career high of 47 shots, taken in a loss to Boston on Nov. 7, 2002.

It was daylong tribute with thousands of fans thronging the downtown streets around Staples Center and chanting his name from early afternoon. Fans lucky enough to get inside Staples Center greeted him with ovations at every opportunity. Magic Johnson anchored a brief pre-

game tribute by calling Bryant "the biggest and greatest celebrity we've had in this town for 20 years" and "the greatest to wear the purple and gold."

After blowing kisses and pounding his heart before the game, Bryant got right to work on what the fans wanted to see. But he missed his first five shots before finally pump-faking and finally connecting on a jumper.

Bryant found a rhythm then, finishing the first quarter with 15 points on 13 shots. He kept it up after sitting out the first six minutes of the second, finishing with 22 points despite missing a last-minute shot, his 20th of the first half.

Warriors get 73rd win, break Bulls' mark



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors took their last shot at Michael Jordan and history and they swished it - for 73.

Down to their final chance at the record, the Warriors became the first 73-win team Wednesday night by beating the Memphis Grizzlies 125-104, breaking what many considered an unmatchable mark set 20 years ago by Jordan's Chicago Bulls—oh, and Golden State coach Steve Kerr, too.

Curry achieved yet one more shooting milestone, becoming the first player to make 400 3-pointers in a season by knocking down 10 from long range on the way to 46 points and 402 total 3s. Golden State saved one last record for the closing day of the regular season, and did it for a roaring, sellout home crowd at Oracle Arena. Yet these Warriors want nothing more than to build off their remarkable run so far and ride it to another title.

Draymond Green had 11 points, nine rebounds and seven assists as defending champion Golden State (73-9) topped the Jordan-led 1995-96 Bulls who went 72-10.

When the final buzzer sounded, Green bounded onto the floor and grabbed the game ball as confetti streamed down and "73 WINS" appeared on the scoreboard.

President Barack Obama sent a tweet that said: "Congrats to the @warriors, a great group of guys on and off the court. If somebody had to break the Bulls' record, I'm glad it's them."

Rockets 116, Kings 81

In Houston, James Harden scored 38 points and the



Houston Rockets took the final Western Conference playoff spot with an easy 116-81 victory over the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday night.

The Rockets never trailed and had a 64-44 lead at half-time behind 16 points from Harden and 10 each from Dwight Howard and Michael Beasley.

Spurs 96, Mavericks 91

In Dallas, Rookies Boban Marjanovic and Jonathon Simmons set career scoring highs and San Antonio rallied past Dallas despite leaving home four starters and two key reserves.

The loss left the Mavericks at risk of falling to the No. 7 seed in the Western Conference and having to face the second-seeded Spurs again in the first round of the play-

offs after San Antonio's 4-0 sweep of its Texas rival in the regular season.

Pistons 112, Cavaliers 110, OT

In Cleveland, LeBron James wore a black blazer and watched from the bench and all the starters for Cleveland and Detroit rested for their first-round playoff matchup as Jodie Meeks scored 20 to lead the Pistons past the Cavaliers.

James rushed onto the court to celebrate when Jordan McRae's 3-pointer tied it 103-all and forced OT. But Meeks, who played just 17 minutes all season because of a foot injury, scored four in the extra session. McRae scored 36 and had a chance to tie it in the final second, but missed two free throws after being fouled on a 3-pointer.

Raptors 103, Nets 96

In New York, rookie Norman Powell scored a career-high 30 points and Toronto wrapped up the best regular season in franchise history by beating Brooklyn.

With the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference already secured, the Raptors didn't even bring All-Star guards Kyle Lowry and DeMar DeRozan, plus Jonas Valanciunas, James Johnson and DeMarre Carroll to the game.

Celtics 98, Heat 88

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas had 21 points and Boston rallied from 26 points down to beat Miami.

Coupled with Atlanta's loss to Washington, Boston earned the fifth seed in the Eastern Conference. The Hawks' loss also gave Miami the third seed and its fifth Southeast Division

title in six years. The Celtics will face the fourth-seeded Hawks in the first round. Miami will take on No. 6 seed Charlotte.

Wizards 109, Hawks 98

In Washington, with a seemingly half-hearted showing in its final regular-season game, Atlanta lost to a bunch of backups for Washington and wound up with the No. 4 seed in the Eastern Conference.

After the game, a person familiar with the decision said Washington coach Randy Wittman has been told he will not be back. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the move has not been announced by the team.

Magic 117, Hornets 103

In Charlotte, Al Jefferson

AP
A Golden State Warriors fan holds up a 73 sign before an NBA basketball game between the Warriors and the Memphis Grizzlies in Oakland, Calif., Wednesday, April 13, 2016.

scored 26 points and playoff-bound Charlotte closed out its best regular season in 16 years with a victory over Orlando.

The Hornets are the sixth seed in the Eastern Conference and will face the third-seeded Miami Heat in the first round of the NBA playoffs.

Pacers 97, Bucks 92

In Milwaukee, Solomon Hill scored a season-high 25 points to help Indiana beat Milwaukee.

Lavoy Allen and Glenn Robinson III each added 14 points for Indiana, which clinched the seventh seed in the Eastern Conference on Tuesday night after beating the New York Knicks.

Bulls 115, Sixers 105

In Chicago, Nikola Mirotic scored 32 points, Justin Holiday added a career-high 29, and Chicago closed a disappointing season with a victory over Philadelphia.

Mirotic hit seven 3-pointers. Holiday made five from long range, matching a personal best. Jimmy Butler added 10 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists.

Timberwolves 144, Pelicans 109

In Minneapolis, Karl-Anthony Towns had 28 points and 14 rebounds and Minnesota sent coach Sam Mitchell out in style with a victory over New Orleans.

Gorgui Dieng had 20 points and 11 rebounds and Shabazz Muhammad scored 28 points for the Timberwolves (29-53).

Red Sox snap Orioles' seven-game win streak



BOSTON
(AP)—Baltimore finally lost after opening the season with a team-record seven straight wins, beaten by the bats of Xander Bogaerts, Jackie Bradley Jr. and Boston.

The Orioles were the last undefeated team in the majors, ending their longest winning streak to start a season since moving to Baltimore in 1954. The franchise opened 9-0 in 1944 as the St. Louis Browns.

The Red Sox snapped a three-game losing streak. Bogaerts hit a two-run double and Bradley had a tiebreaking triple.

Chris Davis hit a two-run homer for the Orioles.

Joe Kelly (1-0) labored through five innings, giving up two runs on seven hits with five walks and six strikeouts. Craig Kimbrel, the fifth Boston reliever, struck out all three batters he faced for his second save. He took the loss in the first game of the series, giving up a three-run homer to Davis.

Royals 4, Astros 2

In Houston, Salvador Perez tagged Houston reliever Ken Giles for a tiebreaking two-run homer in the eighth inning, lifting the Kansas City Royals over the Houston Astros 4-2 Wednesday night.

The World Series champion Royals have taken two of the three from the team they beat in the decisive Game 5 of the AL Division Series last October. This four-game set wraps up Thursday.

Giles (0-1) retired the first two batters in the eighth before walking Alex Gordon on a full count. Perez followed with a drive off the facade



AP
Boston Red Sox first baseman Hanley Ramirez fields a grounder by Baltimore Orioles' Mark Trumbo, who was out during the first inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park, Wednesday, April 13, 2016, in Boston.

above the Crawford Boxes in left field.

Cubs 9, Reds 2

In Chicago, John Lackey pitched into the seventh inning, Kris Bryant hit his first homer of the season and Chicago matched the best eight-game start in franchise history with a victory over Cincinnati.

Miguel Montero had two of Chicago's 10 walks and scored three times as the Cubs improved to 7-1 for the first time since 1985 and just the 11th time overall.

White Sox 3, Twins 0

In Minneapolis, Carlos Rodon worked his way out of trouble several times to complete six scoreless innings, Jerry Sands hit a two-run home run and Chicago kept Minnesota winless.

At 0-8, the Twins have been outscored 33-13 this season.

The only other winless team in the majors is Atlanta, also

0-8. The Twins beat the Braves in that epic seven-game World Series in 1991.

Nationals 3, Braves 0

In Washington, Tanner Roark pitched seven innings, Stephen Drew and Jayson Werth hit fourth-inning home runs and Washington beat winless Atlanta for its fourth straight victory.

Roark allowed four hits and three walks. Pitching on five days of rest, Roark (1-1) struck out four and left after 100 pitches.

Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

Indians 4, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Carlos Carrasco pitched eight efficient innings, Jason Kipnis hit his first homer and Cleveland beat Tampa Bay.

Carrasco (1-0) came within one strike of a no-hitter here last July and held Tampa Bay to just a single and a walk

through the first seven innings in this one. He allowed a run on three hits in the eighth inning and finished with eight strikeouts and just 93 pitches.

Tigers 7, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit a grand slam for his 100th career home run, Shane Greene pitched six strong innings in his first start since undergoing shoulder surgery last August and Detroit beat Pittsburgh.

Saltalamacchia connected off Arquimedes Caminero (0-2) with two outs in the sixth inning, hitting a drive into the right-field bleachers that enabled the Tigers to erase a 2-1 deficit.

Blue Jays 7, Yankees 2

In Toronto, Jose Bautista had two hits and collected his 800th RBI, J.A. Happ worked six innings for his first victory of the season and Toronto beat New York.

Facing the Yankees for the first time since Aug. 31, 2014, Happ (1-0) allowed one run and seven hits in six innings. He walked three and struck out four.

Mark Teixeira hit a solo homer, his third, but New York failed to win its third straight.

Mets 2, Marlins 1

In New York, Kevin Plawecki grounded a tiebreaking, two-run single through a drawn-in infield in the seventh inning, and New York beat Miami to stop a four-game losing streak.

Logan Verrett, starting in place of injured pitcher Jacob deGrom, allowed three hits in six shutout innings, and Hansel Robles and Jerry Blevins (1-0) combined to escape a bases-loaded, no-outs jam in the seventh.

Angels 5, Athletics 1

In Oakland, Matt Shoemaker pitched one-hit ball for six innings and Los Angeles

beat Oakland for its fourth straight win.

Mike Trout had three hits and scored three runs as the Angels finished a three-game sweep.

Marcus Semien hit his third home run in two days for the A's. Oakland fell to 1-6 at home.

Mariners 4, Rangers 2

In Seattle, Dae-Ho Lee hit a two-run, pinch-hit homer with two outs in the 10th inning, lifting Seattle over Texas for its first win of the year at Safeco Field.

The right-handed hitting Lee, who spent the last four years in Japan after 11 seasons in his native South Korea, came on to bat for Adam Lind against left-hander Jake Diekmann (0-1). Lee launched an 0-2 pitch deep over the left-field wall for his second homer.

Brewers 6, Cardinals 4

In St. Louis, Domingo Santana hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the ninth inning, Chase Anderson threw six innings without an earned run and Milwaukee beat St. Louis.

Santana connected off closer Trevor Rosenthal (0-1) with two out to break a 4-4 tie.

Jeremy Jeffress pitched the ninth for his fourth save.

Phillies 2, Padres 1

In Philadelphia, Maikel Franco homered, doubled and drove in both runs and Jerad Eickhoff struck out nine in seven scoreless innings to lead Philadelphia over San Diego.

Eickhoff (1-1) gave up four hits and walked none. He did it while displaying the power he showed at the end of last season when he fanned 10 in each of his final two starts.

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More than 500 runners to join Saipan Marathon



Over 500 runners from around the region are expected to hit the road tomorrow for the 11th Saipan Marathon.

Over 200 runners from Japan, as well as competitors from Korea, China, Guam, and U.S., made up the 510 runners who registered for the race, which for the first time will offer cash prizes to the fastest finishers in all categories.

Island residents are reminded to drive with extra caution and tie up their dogs this Saturday morning to ensure the safety of the runners. The race will start at the American Memorial Park at 4am for the 50K and marathon, at 5am

for the half-marathon, and at 5:45am for the 10K.

“All the preparations are in order, the weather forecast looks good, and we’re expecting a great race tomorrow,” said Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) community projects specialist Ed Diaz, head coordinator of the race. “Let’s all show our great island hospitality and make our visitors feel welcomed during the race and throughout their stay.”

All competitors are reminded to pick up their race packets today at 4pm at Paseo de Marianas without exception. Following the race, participants will be treated to an awards banquet after receiving their coveted finishers t-shirt and

certificates of completion.

Major sponsors this year are: Scalp D, Mobit, Run-tomo, Delta Air Lines, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands (HANMI), T Galleria, and Northern Mariana Athletics.

In-kind contributors are: Emperor Ent. Corp. dba Furusato Restaurant, Herman’s Modern Bakery, Pacific Subsea Saipan INC., Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, I- Mart, Kanoa Resort, Saipan Shipping Company, INC., Avis Rent A Car, McDonald’s, Hyatt Regency Saipan, NGT. Country House/Moby Dick, MARPAC, Triple J. Wholesale, Island Apparel, and

Saipan Advertising.

Aid stations will be manned by members of HANMI and other groups, including: Northern Marianas Athletics, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral Ocean Point Hotel & Golf Resort, Best Sunshine, Saipan World Resort, Kanoa Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Tasi Tours & Transportation, Pacific Development Inc., Hyatt Regency Saipan, IT&E, Aqua Resort Club, Mariana Resort & Spa, Nepalese Community of Saipan, Marianas Health Services, and Northern Marianas College Nursing.

Additional support is being provided by the following government and private sec-

tor offices: Saipan Mayor’s Office, Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Safety, American Memorial Park, Hawaiian Rock Products, Department of Public Works, Japan Saipan Travel Association, and school MY WAVE Clubs.

The Saipan Marathon is one of the sporting events organized annually by the

Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) and its tourism partners to attract visitors and media to Saipan and Tinian. The events are also enjoyed by local athletes. To find out more about upcoming MVA signature events and other activities in the Northern Marianas, visit the NMI Events Calendar at www.mymarianas.com. (PR)

NAKAMURA

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to the pitching leadeboard, which was based on 6 or more at bats. The Chalan Kanoa Bears’ Jose Lizama went 4-for-9 for an average of .445 to place sixth and was followed by the Falcons’ Barry Sunumai, the North Starz’ Tim Cruz, and Titanium’s Ton Leon Guerrero and Patrick Tenorio, who posted identical averages of .429 for firing 3-for-7. Completing the list were the Yankees’ Ben Leon Guerrero (400/4-for-10), the

Bears’ Peyton Lizama (400/4-for-10), and A.J. Lizama (400/4-for-10), the Brewers’ Byron Kaipat (.375/3-for-8), and the Yankees’ Gary Cruz (.364/4-for-11).

Peyton Lizama has the most runs so far in the league with six, while Tim Cruz, and the Aces’ Juan Iguel have recorded five each. Cruz also has two doubles to tie the Yankees’ Peter Tomokane, while in triples category, six players have one apiece. In the RBIs race, Tomokane and A.J. Lizama are ahead with four each, while the Brew-

ers’ Pat Alepuyo, Blue Jays’ Quinson Blas, and the Yankees’ Gary Cruz have tallied three apiece. No player has yet to make a home run in the early stage of the league.

In the pitching race, Riungel and Lieto are tied for the lead with their similar 0.00 ERA. Riungel gave up no earned run in eight innings pitch, while Lieto did the same in five innings.

The two young pitchers are ahead of the Bears’ Jeffrey Lizama (1.42 ERA), the Aces’ Michael Muna Jr. (1.50 ERA), the Brewers’ Leonard Sablan

(1.50 ERA), the Blue Jays’ Keola Camacho (1.80 ERA), the Yankees Kelvin Kapileo (1.80), the North Starz’s V.J. Camacho (2.84 ERA), the Brewers’ Vince Cepeda (3.18 ERA), and the Bears’ Jose Lizama Jr. (3.38 ERA). The pitching leaders were based on five or more inning pitched.

In the strikeouts category, Muna enjoys the top view with his 17 Ks, while Jose Lizama Jr. has earned 13. Lieto and Titanium’s Joe Palacios have 11 apiece, while Keola Camacho and Cepeda have eight each.

FALCONS

From Page 32

ning to edge the Yankees.

Ian Norita gave the Falcons their first run at the bottom of the fourth, as he stole home. Then in the fifth, the Falcons racked up eight runs to grab the lead, 9-5. Darren Pua, who went down on a 5-3 putout play in his first at bat, had a two-RBI single in his second to cap the Falcons’ rally. L.J. Norita, and Giovanni Mira each contributed an RBI single in the run and the Falcons got the four other runs from the Yankees’ three errors and a

passed ball.

The Falcons added two more runs in the sixth off K.J. Kalen’s sacrifice out and Ian Norita’s run from a passed ball to extend the lead, 11-5. The Yankees, on the other hand, failed to light up the board for the third straight inning after scoring two and three runs in the second and third.

The Yankees then tried to rally in the closing inning, but fell short after making only three runs. Benwachi Taisacan reached off Robert Tudela’s RBI walk, while Charles McDonald’s scored off a fielder’s choice at the

top of the seventh. The Yankees’ eighth and last run came in the ninth with Ben Guerrero advancing to home off a Falcons’ error with just one out. Ricky Joe Riungel, who was the Falcons’ third pitcher, got the second out when he struck out Mario Salas and shortly the game ended as Peter Tomokane flew out at rightfield.

With the Falcons winning, they tied the Yankees in second place with their similar 2-1 marks and the Chalan Kanoa Bears moved up to a share of first place with Titanium.

The Bears matched Tita-

nium’s 2-0 slate after stunning the Brewers, 10-3, last Tuesday.

Jose Lizama pitched eight innings for the Bears and got 13 strikeouts. He allowed only eight hits in 34 at bats and gave up three earned runs. With Lizama on the mound, the Brewers were silent in the first four innings before gaining one run in the fifth and two in the eighth.

Peyton Lizama went only 2-for-5 for the Bears, but scored four runs and two RBIs. Jerome Delos Santos also had two RBIs off his 2-for-4 performance at bat.

goals for Tan Holdings, while Iverson Santos made the lone goal for Matansa.

With the win, Tan Holdings managed to tie MP United’s record. MP United whipped Shirley’s 14-1, in the third game at the Koblerville pitch, but other details of the match were unavailable at press time. Both MP United and Tan Holdings have two games left in the season, including this weekend’s matches, and these tiffs will decide their respective title bids.

In other results at the Koblerville pitch, Kanoa downed Paire, 4-3, to improve to a 5-0-3 mark for third place in the team standings ahead of Paire

NMITA

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and Maria are also competing in the girls U14 singles, joining Top 2 seeds Asia Raulerson and Conatsu Kaga.

In the girls U16, eight players will be vying for the division title. The list includes Isabel Heras, Tania Tan, Grace Choi, Mimi Sakano, Malika Miyawaki, Ami Tsukagoshi, Conatsu, and Asia.

In the doubles, the boys and girls U12 divisions have three and two entries, while three pairs will fight for the boys U18 doubles title.

Ranking points will be awarded in the CNMI junior championships and players who will make the grade will represent the Commonwealth to the 2016 North Pacific Regional Championships, which Saipan will be hosting in June.

MATANSA

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Tan Holdings at 9am at the Oleai pitch, while MP will duel Kanoa also at 9am on April 23.

If Matansa and MPU win their last matches, they will end up with similar 6-1-1 marks. The organizing Northern Mariana Islands Football Association has yet to announce if the tie will be resolved via the number of goals scored for the season or through a knockout game. So far, Matansa has the most goals with 33, while MPU has 21.

CO-ED U12
MPU 12, Tan Holdings 2
MP United is also in conten-

tion for the U12 championship after easing past Tan Holdings at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Rintaro Miyawaki scored five goals in MP United’s win, giving his team a 7-0-1 record with one game left in the season. MP United will face Kanoa for its last match this Saturday and a win will hand the former the division crown. An MPU loss will allow Kanoa to tie the former for first place.

Kanoa 10, Paire 2

Kanoa improved to a 6-0-2 mark and still shadows MP United after beating Paire in the other match at the Hopwood pitch.

Merrick Toves starred in Kanoa’s rout of Paire after making a hat-trick. Ian Lubao and Andrew Sablan chipped in two goals apiece, while Daniel Pablo, Jim Maniago, and Steve Mora logged one each. Max Church and Dylan Mister scored for Paire, which fell to a 1-7 record for the last place in the team standings behind Tan Holdings (2-0-6).

BOYS U14

Tan Holdings 2, Matansa 1

Tan Holdings edged Matansa in the second game at the Koblerville Elementary School Field to move up to a 6-0-2 mark.

John Canape drilled both

(4-0-4), Matansa (3-0-5), and Shirley’s (0-0-8).

GIRLS U15

Shirley’s 3, Paire 0

Shirley’s shut down Paire at the San Antonio Middle School Field to stay on top of the division.

Jasmine Phan, Jerlyn Castillo, and Lillian Podziewski scored for Shirley’s, which now has a 7-0-1 mark to lead Kanoa (6-0-1), MP United (4-0-4), Matansa (4-0-4), Paire (1-0-6), and Tan Holdings (1-0-7).

Three more playing weekends, including this Saturday, are left in the season before the division champion is decided.

Kanoa 5, Matansa 0

Kanoa kept its title hopes alive after blanking Matansa.

Anne Valino made four goals for Kanoa, which owns the division’s second-best mark of 6-0-1. Paulynn Grace Joyce recorded the other goal for Kanoa.

MP United 6, Tan Holdings 0

MP United registered the third shutdown win in the division against Tan Holdings.

Gillian Villagomez anchored MP United’s easy victory after posting four goals. Calantha Choi and Maury Zon Tybaco chipped in one goal each to help MP United get its fourth win.

7 more pairs crowned champs in IT&E tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Seven more teams gained top honors in the IT&E Doubles and Mixed Doubles Badminton Competition 2016.

The list includes the pair of Patrick Fernandez and Vilma Reyes, who ruled the mixed doubles C after sweeping Morgan Kim and Erica Jung,

21-15, 21-16, in their title duel last April 2. Fernandez stepped up in their Game 1 win after scoring 15 of their total points, including 6 of their last 7 markers. In Game 2, it was a team effort with Reyes contributing 11 against the 10 of Fernandez.

In other results, three more pairs also took only two games to win the champion-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Patrick Fernandez makes a backhand, while teammate Vilma Reyes gets ready for a return during their mixed doubles C title game against Morgan Kim and Erica Jung in the IT&E badminton tournament early this month at the TSL Sports Complex.

ing 4 of their last 5 markers.

In the men's doubles B finals slated last April 3, Patrick Fielded and Oh Im Bog defeated Ezekiel Macario and Espana, 21-17, 21-16. Fielded registered 12 points in their victory in the first game, while Oh took over in the second, making 14.

In the men's doubles C title match, which was also played last April 3, Morgan Kim redeemed himself from an earlier loss when he partnered with Jun Sik Kim in downing Patrick Fernandez and A.J. Ortega. Jun Sik and Morgan pulled off a tough 22-20 victory in the first game with the latter recording the last two points for his team. In the second game, the eventual champions had cruise control, posting a 21-10 triumph with Morgan contributing 11 points and Jun Sik adding 10.

In the mixed doubles A championship game, which was the last title match played (April 8) in the tournament, Jen Savellano and Deether Edralin outclassed Galvez and Malou Malasarte, 21-19, 21-14. The finals win was Savellano's second, as she earlier teamed up with Janelle Pangilinan in beating Hannah Choi and Alma Ortega in the women's doubles A title match, 22-20, 21-9.

The champions and the second and third placers were given medals during the competition's awards ceremony last Friday.

NMITA holds last local tourney



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Richard Steele will be competing in two singles events in this weekend's 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association will start the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships this weekend at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

The two-weekend event will be NMITA's final local competition for the 2015-2016 season and will feature eight singles divisions and three doubles contests.

In the boys U10 singles, four players—Danny Jeoung, Andrew Chung, Anthony Gregoire, and Min Gi Jung—will battle for the championship and they will play in a round-robin contest.

Gregoire will also compete in the boys U12 singles and is one of the four seeded players in the group. Daniel Kang is ranked first, followed by Richard Steele, Seung Jin Paik, and Gregoire. Other players vying for the boys U12 singles crown are Chris Ryu, Jae Hoon Son, Rintaro Miyawa-

ki, Seung Won Lee, Rentaro Suzuki, and Andy Kim.

In the boys U14 singles, Ji Min Woo and Paik are the Top 2 seeds and will be joined in the division by Sean Lee, Sam Ryu, and Jack Jeoung.

In the boys U18 singles, top-ranked Moris Villanueva leads the participants at the upper half of the draw, which also has Sean Lee, Ken Song, Woo, and Tony Kim. Michael Ren, the second-seeded player in the division, is at the bottom half of the field along with Vincent Tudela, Steven Goodwin, and Robbie Schorr.

In the girls division, U10 age group, Anika Camacho and Thaileena Raulerson took the Top 2 seedings and will be challenged by JC Ferrer, Helen Kim, and Yejin Son.

The girls U12 division also has five entries in Maria Gregoire, Rei Sekiguchi, Riko Ojima, Erika Tuttle, and Coume Kaga. Coume, Tuttle,

See NMITA on Page 30

ship in their respective divisions, while the three others played an extended finale.

The first three-game title match was held last April 3 and featured the tandems of Nicole Malasarte and Loida Ito and Alma Ortega and Windy Fernandez with the latter pair drawing first blood, 21-17. However, Malasarte and Ito fought back and won the last two games, 21-16, 21-8, to bag the women's doubles B crown.

Windy Fernandez had her second title game on the same day and this time she went victorious with Chris Hilario as her partner. They got the mixed

doubles B championship after rallying past Nathan Guerrero and Nicole Malasarte. Guerrero and Malasarte won the opening game, 21-15, but missed the division title when Hilario and Fernandez topped the last two, 21-10, 21-14.

In the third championship tiff that went the distance, Glenn Buultjens and Guerrero ended up on the winning side of the April 8 pairing. They claimed the men's doubles AB title after prevailing in the last two games, 21-16, 21-19,

against Andreau Galvez and Rodweath Espana, who eked out a 21-16 win in the opening game.

Galvez and Espana moved a win away from clinching the division title after logging the last 6 points in the first game. In the second game, Guerrero earned 14 points, but it was Buultjens who delivered the killer blows, making the team's last 2 markers. In the deciding third game, there was a role reversal with Buultjens getting the early points for his team and Guerrero closing out, fir-



Runnin' Rebels, Run N' Gun pound foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Runnin' Rebels and Run N' Gun romped past their respective opponents in the 2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Runnin' Rebels whipped CES Electronics in the first game, 88-59, while Run N' Gun scored a similar easy win against Best Sunshine International in the second match, 116-63.

The victory was the Runnin' Rebels fourth in five games, putting them in second place in the team standings behind the unbeaten Ol'Aces (4-0). The Ballers, who came from a 82-75 victory versus the Risers last Saturday, are in third place with their 3-1 slate, followed by 670 Sonics (2-2), Risers (2-2), NMI Rollers (2-2), CES Electronics (2-3), Run N' Gun (1-4), and BSI (0-5).

Jerald Castillo helped Run N' Gun break into the win column after firing 21 points, 15 of them came from downtown. Greg Sablan and Kevin Jack backed Castillo up, com-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Ballers' Lerio Pagarao, right, challenges the defense of the Risers' Sid Quan during their game in the island-wide men's caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

binning for 30 points.

Run N' Gun peppered BSI with triples, hitting nine from beyond the arc against the latter's none. Bon Fabian had 16 points in BSI's losing cause.

In the Runnin' Rebels-CES tiff, the former also outgunned

their foes from downtown, 9-2, to set up the 29-point winning margin.

Jason Palacios led the Runnin' Rebels' hot shooting, knocking in five triples and posting 17 points. Don Teregeyo and Shane Deleon Guer-



ero also finished in twin digits for the Runnin' Rebels, contributing 13 and 12, respectively.

Jerome Norita paced CES with his 17 points.

Meanwhile, in last Saturday's second game, Kenneth Viray recorded a game-high 26 points to lift the Ballers to the 7-point win.

Viray also scored successive points in the homestretch to hand the Ballers their third win. He tallied the Ballers' last 5 markers and had 11 in the final canto.

In the other match last Saturday, Elmer Esdrelon drained two important triples in the fourth period and added three charities to help Blue Haus pull off a come-from-behind 89-80 win against the Sonics.

Esdrelon's two treys were Blue Haus' last two field goals and the team sealed the win by making five free throws in the closing minutes. Junar Guiab hit the two other shots from the stripe for Blue Haus, which faced a 37-44 halftime deficit before mounting a comeback in the second half.



Warriors get
73rd win, break
Bulls' mark

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7 more pairs
crowned
champs in IT&E
tournament

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Matansa Football Club's Terrence Evan Belcher goes for a kick, while Kanoa FC defenders look on during the second half of the boys U17 division game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Matansa, MPU boost title bids

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Matansa Football Club and MPU United FC are in a tight race for the boys U17 division crown in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League following their similar wins last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Matansa pounced on Kanoa FC, 9-0, in the second game to improve to a 5-1-1 win-draw-loss record, while MP United got the same mark after shutting down Paire FC, 4-0.

Terrence Evan Belcher led Matansa's demolition of Kanoa, as he knocked in four goals, including back-to-back shots in the 15th and 18th minute. The captain's two other goals were recorded in the 65th and 71st minute. Jamesbonie Valdez and Joshua De Leon added two goals each, while Corbin Kay Rife contributed one.



In the MPU-Paire tiff in the first game, the former got four different players in the second half. Bada Lee put MPU on the board with his conversion in the 52nd, while James Kim gave the team its second goal three minutes later. Michael Lee made it three in a row for MPU United in the 75th minute, while Sun-joon Tenorio closed out for the squad with his goal in the 77th.

Both MPU and Matansa have one game left in the double-round robin spring season and results of their remaining

matches will determine the winner of the division championship. Matansa will play its

last match tomorrow against

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Nakamura ahead; Riungel, Lieto on top

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Yankees' Franco Nakamura and Falcons' Ricky Joe Riungel and the Yankees Peter Lieto are the early leaders in the batting and pitching races in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League.

Nakamura is on top of the batting charts with his .833 average from a 5-for-6 at bat in the Yankees' first two games. Nakamura is ahead of the Falcons' A.J. Evangelista and the GSM Brewers' Nokki Saralu, who recorded similar .572 average in the first two

matches after going 4-for-7. The Aces' Lamar Iguel and Blue Jays' Keola Camacho rounded out the Top 5 after earning identical .500 averages with the former hitting 4-for-8 and the latter going 3-for-6.

Ten more players made it

See NAKAMURA on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Yankees pitcher Peter Lieto, right, warms up with teammate Gary Cruz during their opening game against the Blue Jays in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League late last month at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Falcons hand Yankees first defeat; Bears win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Falcons made it two in a row after defeating erstwhile leader Yankees, 11-8, in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



The Falcons, who fell short in their upset bid against defending champions GSM Brewers during the league's opener, 6-7, before bouncing back against the Blue Jays, 14-13, collected their 11 runs from the fourth to sixth in-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Chalan Kanoa Bears players and official huddle before their game against the GSM Brewers in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

